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20p

10th NOVEMBER, 1979

**ACTION FROM
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Arsenal's Willie Young (number six) heads clear from Roy Greenwood of Derby.

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Liverpool and Q.P.R. spy on striker Melrose



LIVERPOOL and Queens Park Rangers have sent scouts to spy on Scotland Under-21 striker Jim Melrose. The Partick Thistle striker has been placed on the transfer list at £300,000.

Tommy Docherty, manager of Queens Park Rangers, had Melrose watched last season when he held the reins at Derby, and Anfield boss Bob Paisley was also interested in the player.

The problem then was that Firhill manager Bertie Auld was reluctant to sell his star.

Now, Auld has changed his mind after receiving a transfer request.

The problem for the two English clubs is that Auld is likely to drive a hard bargain. He rates him a better striker than Frank McGarvey, who is poised to break into Liverpool's first team after signing from St Mirren last season.

Liverpool might be encouraged to fight off the Doc's interest on the strength of their business relationships with Partick Thistle in the past. Three years ago Liverpool bought Thistle defender Alan Hansen for a bargain £100,000.

Cherry warns critics to lay-off Leeds

LEEDS United's England defender Trevor Cherry is fed-up with critics who compare the club's current First Division team with the magical side built by Don Revie.

Cherry says that comparisons with Leeds' teams of the past are unfair. United's glory days are history and Jimmy Adamson's team should be given every encouragement to do well this season.

"That Leeds side of the past was an exception," he says. "It was a great side but that has gone. Everybody has to forget about that side. You cannot compare us with the old team for perhaps five or six years."

He insists that ten points from the first 11 matches is satisfactory if not title winning form, but the club has been handicapped severely with injuries.

"We have had to overcome a lot of injuries to key players. We have battled for results but haven't settled down to any form."

"The boss has bought some players who are going to come good in 12 months time. Unfortunately, you're expected to do it now in football and it's hard for some of the new lads." (See Club Spotlight on page 23).

Flying Rams Fan

MANAGEMENT consultant Rik Leggett believes he is unique. Written into his contract of employment is the clause that he is released every weekend to watch his favourite team, Derby County, play.

Every Friday his employers, W. D. Scotts, based in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee, fly Rik to East Midlands Airport so that he can watch his favourite team. He returns from his Derbyshire home in the village of South Wingfield every Sunday afternoon.

For the last eight years, six of them working in Northern Ireland, Rik has had this clause in his contract of employment.

"It gets tiring, but it's worth it," he says. "I've been a Derby fan for 35 years, since I started watching them as a boy in the last war. There's no way I will stop supporting my team."

QUOTE of the season by Leicester City manager Jock Wallace when asked about his team's chances against a side riding high in the Second Division. "We'll murder them. We might not win, but we'll murder them!"

SCOTLAND boss Jock Stein has agreed to be manager of the Select XI to play East Stirling in a testimonial match for defender Gordon Simpson later in the season.

Simpson, one of the best players in the Scottish Second Division, has been with East Stirling for 11 years and has given service to seven managers, Ian Crawford, Jim Rowan, Bob Shaw, Alex Ferguson, Ian Ure, Dan McLindon and present boss Billy Lamont.

It is hoped to have a star-studded select team to face East Stirling in Simpson's match, with Jock Stein using his influence to attract full international players. No date has been fixed for the game yet.



OSVALDO Ardiles unveils more sorcery from his impressive repertoire of ball skills.

Tottenham's Argentinian World Cup star has always found plenty of time to reveal his artistry despite the closest attentions of First Division defenders.

I once saw Len Shackleton sit on a football, but this is ridiculous . . .

IAN Wallace, Coventry City's Scottish international striker, lost his wedding ring playing against West Bromwich Albion at The Hawthorns. Albion, to their credit, called in one of their fans with a metal detector. As a result Ian now has his wedding ring back on his finger. Treasure hunter Derek Ingram, who found the ring, said: "It is the 515th ring I've found since I started searching for lost jewellery."

NEWS

Compiled by
BILL DAY



DESK

Burridge blasts a warning to Palace

CRYSTAL Palace must become more professional if they are to establish themselves in the First Division.

They must compete as a team not as individuals.

The advice is not mine but that of John Burridge, Palace's goalkeeper, who delivers a no-nonsense verdict on Palace's two successive defeats last month against Southampton and Everton.

"Unless we get our attitude right, we won't do well," claims Burridge. "We have to be more professional and ignore talk about individual players."

"Palace's defence is the best I've ever played behind, even though we conceded four at Southampton and three at Everton. But it's the best because it's the best unit — not because of Kenny Sansom and Jim Cannon or anyone else. Not even because of John Burridge, but because we work so well together."

"Liverpool are a good example to us. They are always a team, a real unit. That is what we have to be like, totally professional at all times. We are learning. Our recent kick in the teeth won't do us any harm."

New Schools' supremo

ARTHUR Rice, new General Secretary of the English Schools' Football Association, will not be making sweeping changes when he takes up his appointment on January 1st.

Mr Rice will consolidate the excellent work carried out by his predecessor, Mr Glyn Evans, before his retirement.

"I am not going to be a new broom," declares Mr Rice, aged 53, who is resigning from his job as Head of Careers at Pensby Secondary School, Heswall, Wirral.

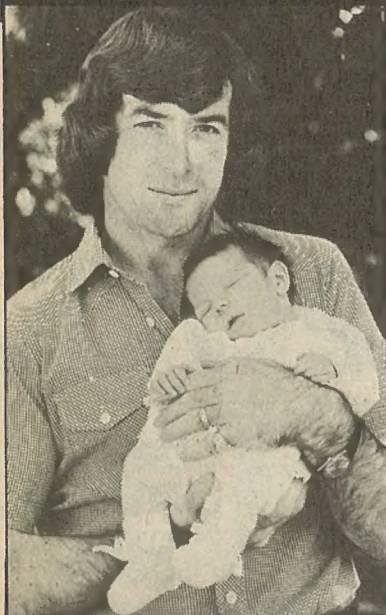
He has been associated with schools football in the Wirral area since 1950. He was appointed Secretary of the association in 1953, a position he held until his appointment with the ESFA.

He is a past chairman of both Merseyside County and Cheshire County Schools' F.A.'s.

LIAM Buckley, the former Shelbourne midfielder who was on the wanted list of several First Division clubs last season, has decided to stay in Ireland and has joined Shamrock Rovers.

FULL-back Frank Lampard made his 400th League appearance for West Ham at Leicester on Saturday, 13th October. Hammers won 2-1 to complete a day to celebrate for Frank.

Mite in big mitts!



THE safest hands in football clutch all 9 lbs 2 oz of James Patrick Jennings.

Pat Jennings, Arsenal's Northern Ireland international goalkeeper, gives his baby son his first glimpse of Highbury stadium. Unfortunately, James appears to have lost interest in his famous surroundings.

Watford also report a "baby boom". No fewer than four Vicarage Road players have become fathers, John Ward, Keith Pritchett, Alan Garner and Steve Sherwood.

GEORGE GRAHAM QUILTS

FORMER Scotland, Arsenal and Crystal Palace star George Graham has announced that he is quitting soccer at the end of the season.

"Stroller" broke a leg on the Londoners' tour of the States last summer and has decided to retire after helping Palace's youngsters in the reserves.

He has been granted a testimonial, against one of his former clubs, Arsenal.

Here's George and his wife Marie, with daughter Nicol (11) and son Daniel (7) wearing some of the player's 12 Scotland caps.



MOVIE MAD ARSENAL

ARSENAL are using a new "instant" movie unit to enhance their coaching facilities at Highbury.

They have bought a Polavision "sportpak", which includes a slow-motion, stop-action playback unit offering the coach and player a selection of four slow-motion speeds, freeze-frame and an instant movie camera.

The sportpak gives coaches the facility to film soccer skills or special team movement and the opportunity to view an instant playback of the action.

Don Howe, Arsenal's assistant-manager and one of the best coaches in the game, can operate the camera and process the action within two minutes.

Manager Terry Neill (right) says: "The instant replay enabled us at any stage in the training session to just break off for a minute or so, short enough for the players to have a breather but not get cold, to have a look at the function that we were trying to perfect at that time."

"While we are not saying that the players would disbelieve either Don Howe or myself, if they can actually see



something on tape quickly, it gives them a mental picture of exactly what we are trying to do."

The equipment costs £400 and will be a boon to any football club, professional or otherwise.

THURLES Town cannot be accused of not trying out new players. The Tipperary club used 65 different players in their first 64 League games. The only survivor from the side that played their first League game two years ago is Noel Jordan.

DERBY County manager Colin Addison has appointed former Nottingham Forest player Alan Ashman as chief scout.

WALSALL have found a priceless asset in young Don Penn. Manager Alan Buckley rates the youngster highly.

Buckley said: "There is no doubt that Don has played a big part in our successful start."

In the first dozen games Penn scored seven goals which brought the scouts flooding to Fellows Park. Now Walsall could be on the verge of picking up another big transfer fee.

EOIN Hand has got off to a great start in his new role as player-manager of Limerick United. The Shannonsiders were the early pacesetters in Eire and Eoin himself was in great form. In their 4-1 win over Cork United at the Market's Field, Eoin got all four of Limerick's goals.

THE only players who have figured in Football League matches since the war when turned 40 have been: Stanley Matthews (Stoke), Neil McBain (New Brighton), Ted Sagar (Everton), John Oakes (Charlton), Alf Wood (Coventry), Roy Sproson (Port Vale), and Bobby Collins (Oldham). Will any of the veterans still on active service survive long enough to emulate them?

FORMER inside forward Eddie Quigley, once Soccer's biggest-fee player, has set up a fantastic record during his player-manager-coach-scout career. He has actually had FOUR separate spells with Bury, three with Blackburn Rovers (whose chief scout he is now), and two with Stockport County!

SEVERAL clubs have noted that Scottish international goalkeeper Jim Stewart is out of Middlesbrough's team.

Stewart says: "I deserved to be dropped last season after a few mistakes and I can't expect to be in the side because Jim Platt is playing so well, but I'm happy at Boro."



FOR once Grandstand's front-men are not talking. Instead, they are turning on full lung-power to blow-out candles on a cake baked in celebration of the programme's 21st birthday.

Grandstand presenter Frank Bough (second from right) competes with David Coleman, Tony Gubba and Cliff Morgan, Head of Outside Broadcasts, in an effort to extinguish the candles.

The B.B.C. Television's popular Saturday afternoon programme first appeared on screens in 1958. No sports programme has been more popular than Grandstand.

MANCHESTER City are the latest English club to show an interest in Gordon Fraser, Meadowbank Thistle's 17-year-old full-back. His consistent displays for the Edinburgh Second Division side this season have already been noted by Aston Villa and West Bromwich.

A determined effort is being made this season to "clean up" the Scottish Junior Cup. Any player shown the yellow card during a Cup-tie will be automatically fined £3. And there is a further promise from the Junior bosses that any player ordered off will be severely dealt with by the disciplinary committee.

THE next youngster leaving Preston could be Stephen Doyle. Manager Nobby Stiles boosted the North End coffers by three quarters of a million pounds when he sold Mick Robinson to Manchester City. Doyle will fetch at least £200,000.



Trewick wants transfer

JOHN Trewick (above), West Bromwich Albion's amiable Geordie, is about to leave the club.

He feels that he is currently producing his best football since breaking into Football League but on the other hand is of the opinion that his skills might be appreciated more at another club.

He said: "For a long time now I have not known where my future lay. It seemed to me that I would play a good game then be left out for the next match. I want to play for a club where I stand a real chance of winning a regular first team place."

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ONE of the experiences I have yet to enjoy is that of coming back to my former club and playing against ex-team-mates.

It must conjure up all sorts of feelings: nostalgia for the good times there, meeting familiar faces in the old surroundings, and wanting to prove that you're still a great player.

Season after season I cross my fingers and hope Liverpool will be drawn against my first, and only other, club — Scunthorpe United — in a competition such as the League Cup. I'd love to make another appearance at the Old Show

game in the business. He can tell which side an opponent is going to attempt to pass him, or cut off a ball to wreck a move.

He more than compensates for his poor heading ability.

But with all due respect to Emllyn, he is not the newly-signed player who has made the biggest impact at Molineux. That distinction must go to Andy Gray, rated the most expensive transfer in Britain at £1½m from Aston Villa.

Manager John Barnwell clinched a shrewd business deal by paying out only around £100,000 more for Andy than he received for Steve

'IT'S NOT LIVERPOOL

Ground where I developed my skills sufficiently to attract the attention of what I consider to be the best and most glamorous club in Britain, Liverpool.

But this Saturday, it's Emllyn Hughes, now captain of Wolves, who returns to the scene of many shared triumphs to lead his new club against his old one.

I know what a wrench it was for Emllyn to leave Anfield where for so many years he'd been a king pin in a successful side that had scooped up a massive haul of trophies, including two European Cups. But a persistent knee injury, caused through wear and tear in the service of Liverpool and England, had limited him to around a mere 20 appearances last season, and a fine understanding developed between Phil Thompson and his successor, Alan Hansen, meant he was unlikely ever again to command a regular place.

So he opted to leave for a club where he would continue to play First Division football and keep in Ron Greenwood's eye.

Liverpool reserves, good as they are, are unlikely to get the call for England duty.

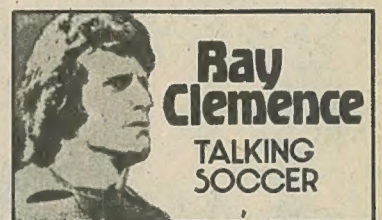
From all reports, Emllyn has done well with Wolves, justifying manager John Barnwell's faith that his skill, enthusiasm and experience would be of tremendous benefit to a club that, despite having a great tradition and many talented players, only just survived in the First Division last season.

To be led by a player with such an impressive record as Emllyn's must boost the confidence of players unused to winning things and bring out the best in them.

I know from my experience of playing behind him, in his younger days as a midfield man, and in recent years in the back-four, what a marvellous influence he can be.

Our Kopites christened him "Crazy Horse" at the outset because he galloped non-stop over every blade of grass on the pitch for 90 minutes.

Since then Emllyn has developed into one of the best readers of the



'Willie Carr never stops'

Daley from Manchester City.

Steve is one of the best midfield operators around, but it was up-front that Wolves were in need, and Andy Gray is a real value for money goalscorer as his record shows.

If he can get completely fit, and rid himself of the nagging knee injury that limited his appearances for Villa, Andy will rank amongst the handful of great marksmen in World football.

He has always been a thorn in the side of Liverpool. In season 1976-77

he grabbed two goals in the humiliating 5-1 thrashing Aston Villa dealt us at Villa Park, and the following season scored another brace in our shock defeat at Anfield.

In the penalty box Andy knows no fear, often going in with his head where other players wouldn't even place a foot, and gets some incredible goals. The inevitable cost has been in injuries to his knee.

Defenders daren't relax for a second when he's lurking about, and you'll often find teams paying him the compliment of two markers.

Andy's introduction into the Wolves side certainly benefited John Richards, so quick over ten yards, enabling him to reproduce his old form. Like Andy, John has suffered from being sidelined through injury.

Andy, although no six-footer, is

V. EMLYN HUGHES'

'Andy Gray has helped John Richards return to form'



able to get up to an exceptional height, and knock balls down for John to latch on to and drive for goal.

The partnership John has formed with the young Scot is similar to the highly productive one he had with Derek Dougan, who is now retired from an active part in the game.

John and Andy in turn have allowed Kenny Hibbitt, one of the hardest strikers of a ball just outside the box, to come forward more and give support. They seldom give the

ball away and so risk leaving Kenny stranded too far upfield.

And Kenny also has the advantage of playing alongside Willie Carr, a good honest professional who never stops or gives up, and Peter Daniel, originally a full-back but now excelling in midfield.

Apart from Emlyn, there'll be another new signing in the Wolves team who'll be extra-motivated by the prospect of playing at Anfield: Dave Thomas, recruited from our Merseyside rivals Everton.

'He boosts the confidence of Wolves' players'

they stand a greater chance of winning things.

No doubt Dave will be on duty against us this Saturday. His speciality is the hard, low cross from the wing which 'keepers have problems dealing with. It goes too fast to catch, so your only chance is to try to punch the ball away and risk a collision with a forward coming in to meet it.

This should have been our second meeting in the League with Wolves. The first, on the opening day of the season, had to be postponed because the modifications to their pitch necessitated by the siting of the new stand, had not been completed.

The club are in the middle of an expensive modernisation of the ground. Unlike Chelsea and Sheffield United, who spent huge sums improving their homes, only to lose status and revenue when their teams went into decline, Wolves look to be in the happy position of building a team capable of doing justice to their new, handsome stand.

I look forward to our visit to Molineux and comparing it with the old.

But right now I'm concerned with meeting Wolves at Anfield, which has been steadily improved over the years until now it ranks with the best in Britain and the rest of Europe.

Attraction

No doubt the Press will be building the match up to a distorted "Liverpool v. Emlyn Hughes". Obviously he'll be the centre of attraction for many people. The Kop, for instance, will give him a rapturous reception. They won't forget all the good things he's done for the club.

Emlyn will have briefed his players on our strengths and weaknesses. But we're also aware of his, and those of his team-mates, so we start even on that score.

I'm not divulging a secret when I say we regard Wolves' attack as their strongest department, so our strategy must be to clamp down on the midfield and defence and cut off the supply of passes to Andy and John.

Whereas we shan't be giving Emlyn any special attention, the sight we want to see is him trooping off at the end after suffering an unaccustomed defeat at Anfield, his former field of glory!

Ray Clemence

I was amazed that when presented with the choice of joining either Manchester United or the Old Golds, he chose the latter. Signing for United meant he wouldn't need to uproot himself and move house, apart from becoming part of a club on a par with Liverpool for glamour and tradition.

I can only assume he preferred Wolves because he'll enjoy life more at Molineux, feels he's better suited for their style of play and that

The new Villans...



Ball-winner BREMNER

DES Bremner, Aston Villa's £275,000 signing, was playing for Hibernian against Celtic in the Scottish Premier Division, on Saturday, September 15.

On the Sunday the 26-year-old Scottish international travelled to Birmingham to have talks with Villa about joining the Midlands club.

"I ended up signing on the Monday night, so it was quite quick," says Des. "I was very pleased because it's been my ambition to play in England. I've been wanting to get down here for some time, so I've achieved one ambition."

Des made his debut for Villa in the home game against Arsenal the following Saturday, coming in for the injured Tony Morley. But he was so new he didn't really know exactly who he had replaced. "I didn't know the team at all," he says. "I thought I had a quiet first game. It takes time to adjust

because it's a different type of game in England compared with North of the border. It took two or three matches to adjust and find my way around and to reach a good understanding with the rest of the players.

"But now I have settled in I feel I am doing well."

Bremner started his career with Hibernian as a 19-year-old and during his seven year stay at Easter Road won nine Scotland Under 23 caps and a full cap when he came on as substitute in Scotland's game against Switzerland at Hampden Park in 1976.

'Strength'

"I used to play at full-back when I first started with Hibernian," he says. "Then I was pushed into midfield after a couple of seasons and I've been there ever since."

"My strength is I'm a ball winner. I haven't scored many goals, but I'm always keen to join the attack."

"I heard that Villa boss Ron Saunders was trying to sign me for about 12 months, but I don't know how they find out about these things. He could have enquired about me, but I don't know for certain."

"I'm very impressed with Mr. Saunders. He's straightforward and understanding. He didn't say anything special when he signed me. Just that he wanted me."

"To me it's a fabulous move. Villa are a First Division outfit and I've been fortunate in arriving here. It's a great club and it's always been regarded as such."

At Easter Road, Des has been accustomed to playing in front of crowds of around 8,000, so playing in the cauldron of Villa Park is something of a change.

"It's an experience I can tell you. It's a different atmosphere altogether. There's no comparison. It definitely gees you up."

"The supporters are good at Villa. In my debut I found that the fans really got behind the team."

"My top priority is to establish myself in English football with Aston Villa. If anything comes on the international scene, then all well and good."

"I can only have enhanced my prospects of playing for Scotland by signing for Villa, but I am not going to get anywhere if the side is struggling."

"The potential is here for the club to do well, and I am convinced that Villa can pull out of the doldrums."

DAVE Geddis, Aston Villa's £300,000 signing from Ipswich, had a tough debut for his new club against Arsenal. And he expected it.

"The Gunners are a very good team," said the 21-year-old striker. "In the first-half we were chasing shadows. In the second-half we came out still on level terms when Arsenal should have been two or possibly three goals in front. That gave us heart and it switched the momentum of the game. We did very well from then onwards and forced a goal-less draw. It gave us a platform to build on for our next game."

Dave came into the Villa team to replace the departed John Deehan and seemed to have a battle on his hands against David O'Leary.

"He wasn't the only one who was marking me," says Dave. "Willie Young was there as well. I've always found it hard to play against them. O'Leary is one of the best centre-halves in Europe, if not the best. Willie Young is a player who is very awkward and difficult to play against and he fits in well with O'Leary."

"I knew it was going to be a hard game before I went out there, but was confident that I could do well."

Geddis, born in Carlisle, joined Ipswich in 1974, but made his League debut whilst on loan to Luton Town in 1976. "I was at Kenilworth Road for four months," he says, "but they kept hold of me at Ipswich because I showed a great deal of promise. I played in the F.A. Cup Final in 77/78 when we beat Arsenal 1-0, so I've got a Cup winner's medal. I've also represented the England Youth Team

and I've played for the England B side."

"I had been on the transfer list at Ipswich for two months. That was a culmination of not playing in the first team and also one or two personal problems. The manager, Bobby Robson, was very understanding and he made me available."

"There were a lot of clubs interested, but Aston Villa were the first to come in with a direct approach. I knew their team. It's not as though you can fit into every First Division side that would probably want to buy you. With the way they play and the basis of the team being very young, I thought I would fit in very well. The history and size of the club spoke for itself. The terms were right and the manager, Ron Saunders, seemed down to earth and honest, and that was it."

'Injured'

"It feels good to be at Villa and back in First Division action again. I've been out of football for about a year now. I was injured for a long time and I was only really fit during the last two months of last season. In that time Ipswich had such a good run I didn't have an opportunity to get back into the first team."

"It was obvious that they would keep that team for a while and I could see that I wasn't in their plans."

"This is a chance for me to get back into the swing of things. I've no doubt about my own ability. I don't think I've got anything to prove. Nevertheless, I have been given an opportunity to show



Goal-grabber GEDDIS

win the ball or put the man off — then that's enough. So you can give a couple of inches away and still win quite a few in the air."

"I think a team that has finished in the top eight for the past three seasons as Villa have can not all of a sudden be a bad team. And the coaching staff who have put them in that position during that time can not all of a sudden be a bad coaching staff."

"With the departures of Andy Gray, John Gidman and John Deehan they are obviously buying players who they think can do the jobs for them."

"It's not a nice atmosphere for the manager to work under with the problems in the directors' room. It puts an extra emphasis on the players. But we know that the boss has got problems, so we're going to try that much harder."

"But sometimes when you try too hard, things don't go your way. That's how I see it and that could be our only fault. When we get that put right, I can see Villa challenging strongly for honours again."

"There's a lot of skill and potential at Villa Park, not only in the first team, but in the reserves as well. I'm very optimistic indeed. I've got to be. I wouldn't have joined otherwise."

what I can do again. I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Geddis confirms that he is an out and out striker. "I can play wide," he says, "not necessarily as a winger and a crosser of the ball, but as an attacking player from the flanks. Centre-forward is my position. I like to play in the middle. That's where most of the glory is and it suits me."

Dave is a strong six-footer, but where the high balls are concerned he often comes up against defenders taller than himself. "It doesn't matter how big they are. If your timing is right — whether it be to

VIV RICHARDS-



Viv Richards in a more customary role. But he could have played for Antigua against Italy in the 1974 World Cup in place of Haiti (below, dark strip).

SOCCER FANATIC!

MIKE Brearley and Co will not need reminding that it was a sparkling unbeaten century by Viv Richards that was the difference between England and the West Indies in the Prudential World Cup Final at Lord's this summer.

The Somerset-based batting superstar is renowned for such cricketing exploits, but it is only recently that Viv's soccer skills have come to the fore.

In September a 5,000 crowd sampled the Richards soccer talent when he blasted home a great goal from outside the box in a testimonial game against Yeovil Town.

In fact Viv has played in the "other World Cup"! He represented his native Antigua during a qualifying series in the Caribbean. Haiti were the group winners and they went on to reach the 1974 Finals in West Germany.

"You could say that I'm a soccer fanatic and will go anywhere for a game," said Viv, who not only tormented England at Lord's this summer but also helped Somerset win the first two trophies in their 104-year history.

He scored a great century in the Gillette Cup Final, at cricket's H.O., and played a leading role in Somerset's winning of the John Player League. But after cricket, soccer is Viv's passion.

"I have always loved soccer and played for the island for a couple of years, from when I was about 22. Then I had to make the choice between soccer and cricket.

"I played sweeper in those days but our World Cup side was not very well prepared and Haiti were too strong for us."

Haiti finished bottom of a strong group in Germany. They were outclassed by Italy and Argentina and thrashed 7-0 by Poland. But, despite a lack of international success for the Caribbean, Viv insists that soccer there has something to offer the game.

"There are a lot of very skilful players in the islands, they are naturally gifted footballers.

"I am sure that if English clubs really scoured the islands they would be able to find real talent that would be good enough for the English League," he told SHOOT.

Viv has two brothers, Mervyn and Donald, who have also played for Antigua, and Mervyn, a midfield player, was keen enough to go to



North America and have a trial with Washington Diplomats.

"He didn't make it because he did not have any real connections in Washington, somebody to introduce him to the club. He would like a chance to play in this country I'm sure," said Viv.

When Southampton played a friendly in Antigua, Mervyn was acclaimed as being the man of the match.

Whenever he can Viv supports nearby Bristol City and he has a close friend in City striker Chris Garland. But does Viv ever wish he had been given the chance to play League soccer?

"No, not really. The benefit and charity matches I have played in have been more like it, they've been great fun," admitted the man most regard as the world's number one batsman.

Meanwhile, Viv is not the only star in the Somerset camp who also has a soccer pedigree. Ian Botham, never one to be out of the limelight, has impressed everybody in the same friendly matches.

He plays soccer the same way he plays cricket — aggressively. But the powerful England all-rounder also has the skill to go with his strength and when he was a schoolboy he had the chance to sign for Crystal Palace, opting instead for a cricket career.

In the next year Ian and Viv, great pals off the field, will often be on opposite sides when England meet the West Indies. No doubt at some stage in the Test battles to come both will wish the other had decided to play soccer for a living.

DUNGWORTH'S DILEMMA

BY NICK STEPHENS

THE John Dungworth story highlights the problem created by the new freedom of contract and the Independent Transfer Tribunal.

Consider the facts. Dungworth's contract with Aldershot expired at the end of last season after two years of unparalleled goalscoring exploits.

No doubt swayed by numerous newspaper stories of interest from other clubs, Dungworth refused to sign a new contract, and spent the summer sitting by his phone waiting for the bids to come in.

Surprisingly, none came apart from a £40,000 offer from Barnsley — a lot of money for the Yorkshire club, but hardly realistic for a player who had scored 49 League goals in only 91 games, and who was responsible for 34 of Aldershot's 74 League and Cup goals last season.

So dilemma number one. If he signed a new contract for Aldershot he would be tying himself to a club he no longer wanted to play for. On the other hand if he didn't play he would quickly lose match fitness, and drop out of the eye of potential buyers.

In the end he signed a new contract for Aldershot but insisted on a clause which gives him the right to negotiate with any other club at any time.

Target

But now comes dilemma number two. Within weeks of re-appearing Dungworth became a target for Shrewsbury Town.

Shrewsbury offered £60,000. But Aldershot valued their prize possession at £200,000.

Dungworth is, of course, desperate to leave Aldershot, and would be delighted to move up two Divisions, but can Shrewsbury afford to let it go to Tribunal?

They must be prepared to pay more than £70,000, but if they're told to pay say £150,000 then they'll be placing themselves in grave financial trouble.

Now to dilemma number three. In order to impress his would-be buyers Dungworth has to do his best for Aldershot and there can be no doubt he is doing that.

His recent hat-trick against Bradford City brought his total number of League goals to 60, and he averages a goal every two games for Aldershot, but each time he scores — up goes his transfer fee.

It seems remarkable in view of his extraordinary feats at Aldershot, that Dungworth was a free-transfer failure at Huddersfield, Oldham and Rochdale.



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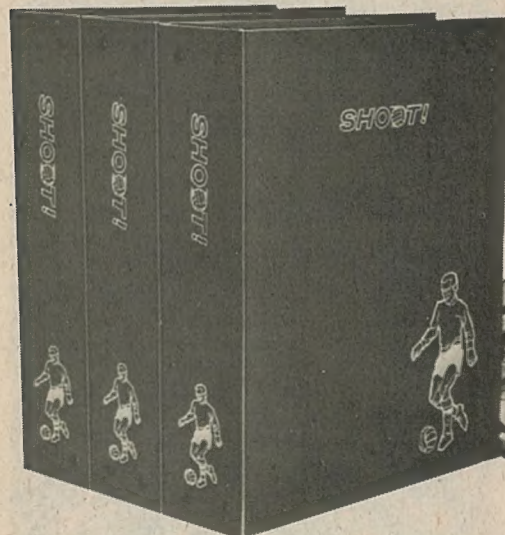
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**Get Soccer Monthly
and get inside
the game.**

JOHN BARTON is the most expensive player of his kind in England today, although he cost less than Andy Gray's five per cent cut of his £1½ million move from Aston Villa to Wolves!

When Everton paid Worcester City £30,000 for Barton towards the end of last season they put him into the record books as the costliest player ever to leave the ranks of a non-League club and turn professional.

And Barton made the change with the same ease Everton, a club with tremendous resources, signed that nominal cheque.

"I am still learning about professional football," says Barton. "But I am loving every minute of it."

The fact that he is still learning is not surprising. He has played less than 20 First Division games. But he is a player rated highly at Goodison.

"I still have a lot of work to do, especially as the club have now bought John Gidman from Aston Villa."

The deal, worth £800,000 must have come as a big disappointment to young John, who was on the verge of establishing himself in the team.

Despite the arrival of England international Gidman, Barton remains a firm favourite with the Goodison Park crowd. His dashing runs down the right flank when he intelligently joined Everton's attacking moves had the popular Gladys Street End chanting:

'There's only one special agent.' They have named him after Dick Barton — the famous detective!

Barton has come a long way in a year. "Twelve months ago I was playing non-League football," he says.

'Engineer'

"It seems incredible to think that I might still be working in Birmingham as an engineer."

"In those days if Worcester City were playing an away game at somewhere like Weymouth, I would finish work early in order to drive to the match. Often I'd not arrive home until three in the morning. Then have to be up four hours later to go back to work."

"Just how lucky I am really came home to me when Everton played Feyenoord in the U.E.F.A. Cup recently."

"The game in Rotterdam was the highlight of my career. I was nervous, but nobody was going to stop me enjoying myself. Because I came into the game at such a late stage, I'm 25 now, I have a lot of catching up to do."

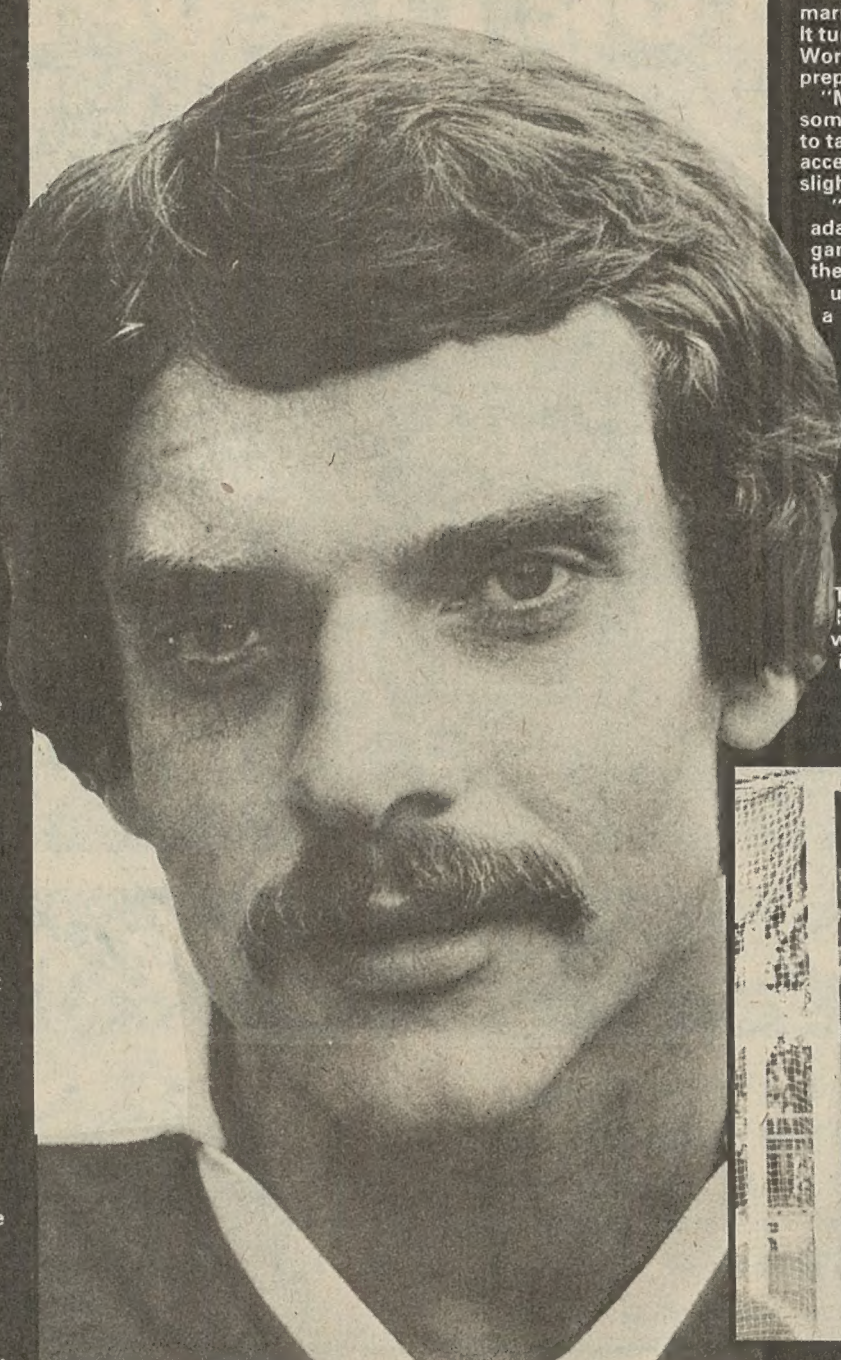
There is another big difference from his football with Worcester City. Now football is his living. A year ago it was a hobby.

"That is something that came home to me very strongly when we went through a bad patch recently. Games were not so enjoyable. The demands on a professional are that much greater."

Barton did have the chance to turn professional before Everton persuaded him to give up the security of a regular job and gamble with his future.

"Fulham offered me terms," he says. "Almost a year before Everton and Manchester City started making enquiries."

JOHN BARTON



"I turned Fulham down. It is not that I am a money-grabber, but quite frankly, they were offering less than I was earning in Birmingham. The gamble was too great then."

"The fact that I had recently married also affected my decision. It turned out to be a good one for Worcester. Fulham were only prepared to pay £7,500 for me!"

"Manchester City offered something like £25,000. I didn't get to talk to them because Worcester accepted Everton's bid which was slightly more."

"People have told me I have adapted well to the professional game. I suppose that is because the change never dawned on me until recently. I thought it was a dream and that it might end."

Barton's emotions are understandable. His ambition has always been to play in the First.

"When I was a kid I had a trial with Aston Villa, in the days when Tommy Docherty was manager. One game was enough for them. I received the standard letter saying I was too small!"

The second biggest thrill Barton has had as a professional came when Everton played Aston Villa in a League Cup game at

Barton (dark shirt) challenges Spurs striker Chris Jones at White Hart Lane.



-EVERTON'S 'SPECIAL AGENT'

Villa Park in September this year.

"I have always been a Villa supporter," he says. "Playing at Villa Park had been an ambition. When we ran out I could still see the spot on the terraces where I used to stand."

"My family, who all come from Birmingham and are Villa supporters, were in the stands with split loyalties."

Unlike the last famous full-back to leave the non-League game in his mid-20's, Tony Book who joined Manchester City from Bath City, Barton has no inclination to stay in the game when he finishes.

"Coaching or management is not for me," he says. "I hope to continue playing football for a long time yet. My dream is just beginning."

THE day John Toshack became manager of Swansea City, he met an old supporter in the street near the ground. "I'm glad to see you down here, John," said the old chap. "You'll make me a happy man and realise an ambition of mine if you get this club back into the Second Division. That's where we belong."

Toshack listened but replied with interest. "I don't want the Second Division — I'm aiming for the First and a place for this club among the best sides in Europe," he answered.

And the old fan? He smiled, laughed out loud and shuffled off on his morning shopping trip. And that's how it was when John Toshack started out on the first stage of the Swansea rescue operation.

Toshack tells the story these days with as much bewilderment as when he first spoke to that fan.

"The people seemed to think the Second Division was the extent of our ambitions," he says. "Get us back there and we'll all die happy, seemed to be the attitude."

"Well, I want to see us in the First — as a successful club. And then on into Europe."

Toshack isn't kidding. And he pours scorn on those who doubt that the Welsh club can make the transition from Fourth Division strugglers to an accomplished First Division outfit.

"When I first came here, we were getting 4,000 crowds. But this season, we had 20,000 for a Second Division match and even 14,000 for a League Cup-tie against Fourth Division Bournemouth.

SWANS HEADING FOR EUROPE

"I've got three players now that I wanted to buy during the summer. Tommy Craig and John Mahoney are both vastly experienced and have given us a lot while David Rushbury is a very promising defender I got from Sheffield Wednesday. Add players like Alan Waddle, Ian Callaghan, Leighton Phillips, Robbie James and Jeremy Charles and you've got a pretty useful side."

What pleases Toshack almost as much as anything is the effect the club's two consecutive promotion years has had on the young players of the future.

"We've signed six Welsh youth boys in the last few months and I know five of them were offered terms at First Division clubs."

"Now they all want to play for Swansea instead of moving to England and that's got to be a great sign for the future."

"I've never said I'm going to win this and that for Swansea, only I'm going to try. That is one thing I learned at Liverpool and there is a great difference."

"Swansea are now in a better position in the Football League than for 15 years, but that's no reason to sit back. I want to win the First Division for this club. Even the people in the town are

getting caught up in the enthusiasm now — all they talk about these days is getting into the First Division. That won't be easy but I certainly believe we can do it."

"Playing as well makes it tough," he admits. "I have to work most evenings as well as all day, every day. I don't see as much of my family now which is one drawback to it — but I accept that as part of the job."

"It's a good job and Swansea has a thrilling future. Even the people of Swansea who yearned for the Second Division, are now asking me when we're going to win promotion again. It shows my enthusiasm is spreading."



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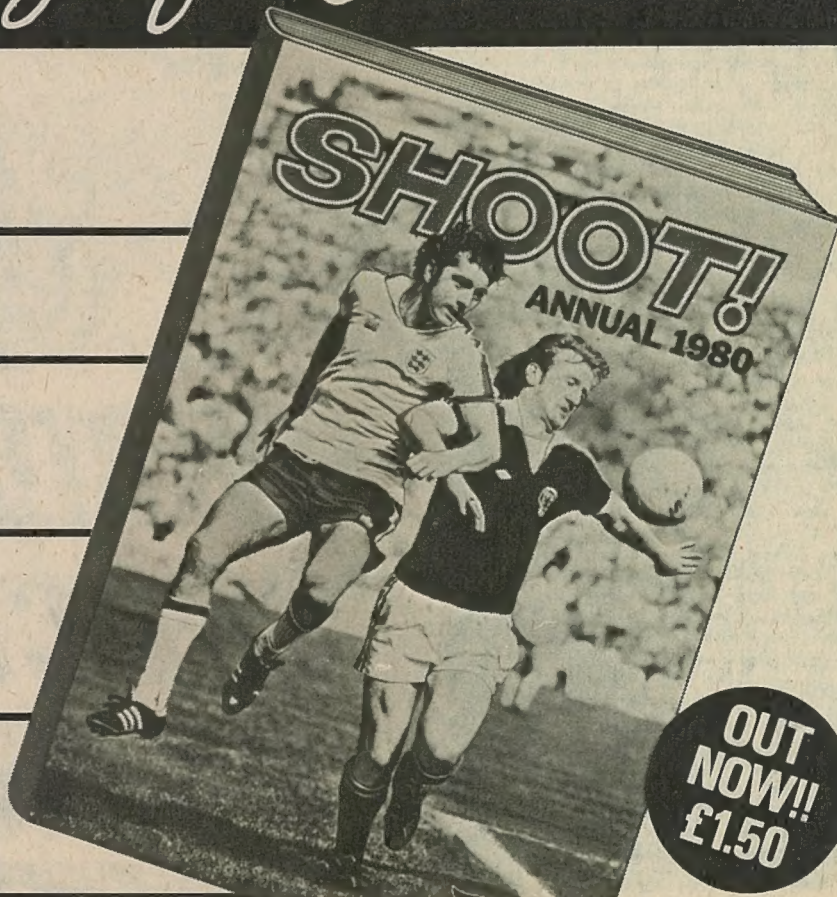
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HAPPY JACK



Owls boss confident of promotion

A LOT of things must happen if Sheffield Wednesday are to get out of the Third Division the best way — by climbing into the Second Division. A little more misfortune last season could have seen them slide into the abyss of the Fourth Division.

Manager Jack Charlton seems to have constructed the squad to win them promotion, but the gremlins which haunted Wednesday's home games last season are still at Hillsborough and restricting the effectiveness of their strikers.

Like last term when they held Arsenal to five games in the F.A. Cup, Wednesday looked good against Manchester City in the League Cup only to be cruelly beaten by an injury time goal.

In the League at home it is a different tale. They failed to beat Hull in the opening game (0-0), looked a sorry picture against Blackburn (0-3) and failed to get even the satisfaction of a first home goal against Brentford (0-2). In marked contrast, away from home, they beat Barnsley 3-0 and were good value at Plymouth 3-1.

Bewitched, bothered and bewildered as he may be by these home setbacks, Jack Charlton is, nevertheless, confident that this will be a good season for The Owls.

He recognises this is the testing year. Not just for him and the players but also for sections of the crowd who profess to want success but mercilessly barracked their young 'keeper Bob Bolder as a backlash to the transfer of Chris Turner to Sunderland.

Undeniably, Charlton is a man of football. His method of management will never win over everyone at Hillsborough but gradually the ranks of doubters will be reduced as the players and supporters back his plans this season to restore status and pride to the club.

He leaves the players in no doubt as to what he expects of them. "I keep reminding them of the importance of pride in their club but first of all they have got to be proud of themselves. They are aware that they are playing for a great club and if they clinch promotion to the Second Division

they will become heroes here.

"They are all aware what is expected of us this time. In our first season we got away from the bottom position we were in and that was good enough. Last season we should have had a better time than we did but a few things contributed like the weather and the injuries we experienced through the Arsenal games.

People expect us to do something. This puts pressure on me but I knew it would be there when I came here. As it happens I am very confident after the start we made when we were lying fifth after 13 games."

It is clear that Jack has not just set himself a three-year term of office. "I've got a job to do here," he said. "I will stay here until that job is done... that is if the club wants me to remain... it's never my decision."

Last season Wednesday could only score 53 League goals. So Charlton has added the experience of Andy McCulloch (from Brentford) and Ian Meilor (from Chester) to his strikers.

'Permutations'

"There is a long season ahead and everybody we've got here will be used by the end of the season.

"There are permutations that we haven't had the chance to look at yet. As long as we get results and are in a good position we'll stick with what we've got."

The animosity shown by too many 'supporters' towards 'keeper Bob Bolder could seriously affect The Owls' chances of success in the event of loss of form or injury to replacement Brian Cox.

Charlton was in no mood to water down the situation. "The Bolder business was disgraceful... We've got a boy of 19 who showed that he can be a terrific asset to this club.

"We still believe he will be. Maybe it's a bit of character building for Bob that he has had to take so much stick. There's no doubt in my mind that he will come back into the side eventually and will do well.

"He is a boy and he will not do well while every ball that he is catching, every one that is rolled at him, everything he does is treated with derision by the crowd. It certainly doesn't help him in his concentration which is 90 per cent of a goalkeeper's game."

Charlton says barracking a 'keeper is foolish. The consequences can only rebound on the team.

"It usually happens to outfield players, but what I don't like about this matter is that people are blaming Bob because Chris Turner left the club.

"Chris went to Sunderland because he wanted to leave and that should be made clear to everybody in Sheffield."

CANARIES' COACHING CLINIC

NORWICH City may not be one of the most glamorous, or fashionable clubs in the game.

But they are one of the most popular. And that popularity is growing all the time.

Reason? A unique coaching scheme for schoolboys, dreamed up by manager John Bond and carried out by the staff and players at Carrow Road.

Bond, anxious to do something to encourage football crazy youngsters, hit on the idea of getting them together to hold week-long coaching 'clinics'.

He needed the facilities to turn his dream into a reality — and Pontins Holiday Centre at Pakefield, Lowestoft, were happy to provide them.

David Gwynn, manager at Pakefield and a football 'nut' co-operated by providing the chalets needed for the 70 to 80 boys who attended the course each week.

They have to pay £54 for the accommodation and all their food — and they are literally queueing up to take part.

The scheme has had a better response than anyone could have dreamed about and before this year's courses were over Norwich had a waiting list for NEXT year. That's how popular they are.

The Norwich staff — led by chief coach John Sainty, chief scout Ron Brooks, and all the players give their services free and it is a great thrill for the boys to be coached by star names like Martin Peters, Kevin Reeves, John Ryan and Justin Fashanu.

Everything is done to make sure the boys are looked after. Graham Wren — who runs the Norwich schoolboys team — and his wife

Ann give up most of their summer holiday to 'live-in' at Pontins to take care of them.

And as the courses this year ran for eight weeks that is quite a sacrifice.

If there are any midweek matches at Carrow Road while the courses are on the lads get free tickets, and free transport, to watch them.

David Gwynn — a man with strong Anfield connections — is full of admiration for Norwich's initiative.

'Taught'

"The really nice thing about it is that there is nothing in it for Norwich. They are doing it because they care about the game and want to see kids taught the right way," he says.

"I've been connected closely with a lot of clubs, at all levels, and I've never come across anything like this before. It's fantastic. I just wish a few more clubs would follow their example."

The kids are already queueing for the privilege of learning from the professionals next summer. It provides a perfect holiday.

It would be nice to think there might be another Kevin Reeves among them. That way Norwich would at least get some reward for the great service they are doing football.

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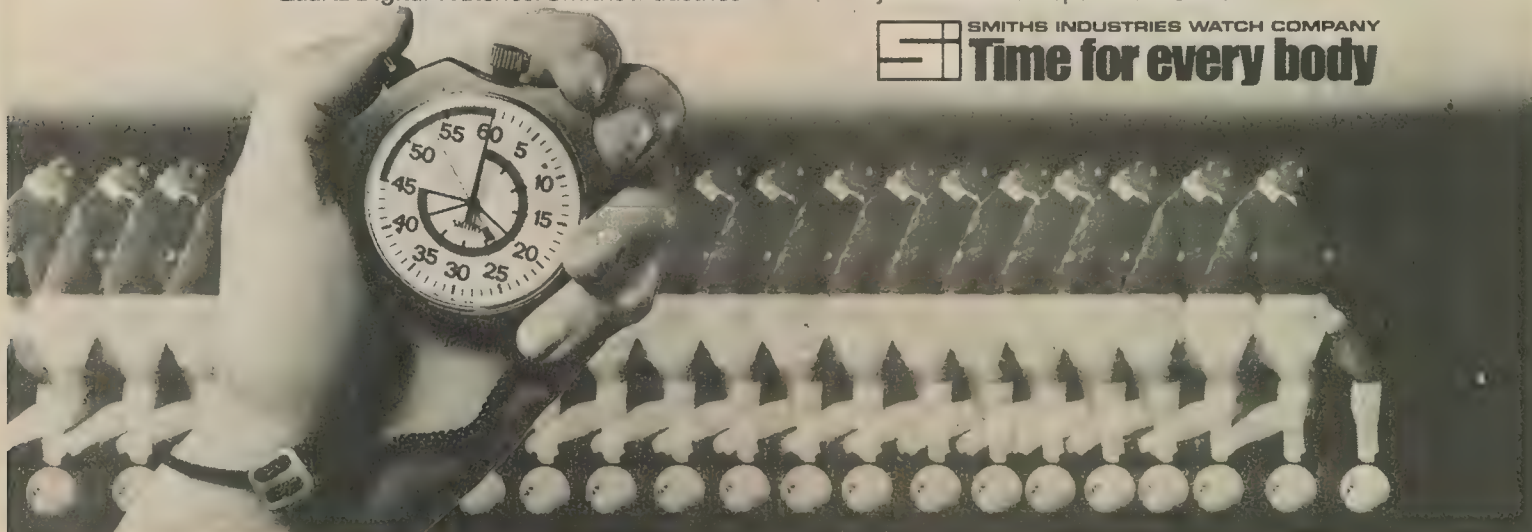
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This week's Star Letter comes from John Hunter of Londonderry, who wins our Special Prize of £5. He writes:

ENGLAND RECALL FOR GERRY?

★ How good it is to see Gerry Francis back to his best with Crystal Palace. After the terrible time he's had with injuries over the past four years, Gerry certainly deserves any success that comes his way.

Francis showed great courage and determination during his troubles and is now near to getting his rewards, despite some kidney trouble again last month.

An England recall is surely next for a player who has been badly missed by his country.

● Praise, indeed, from a reader whose country has just been thrashed 5-1 by England! England's midfield needs more firepower, despite that result, and Francis could supply that — and the variation needed against the top Continentals.

Wrong Boro Star

IN your 20th October issue, you printed a photo of Middlesbrough's David Hodgson, but called him Mark Proctor.

PETER SANDS, REDCAR.

● Our apologies — a red card to all concerned. Here's Mark in action.



No Entertainment

AFTER the Rangers/Dundee game, Dundee manager Tommy Gemmell said: "We didn't come to Ibrox to entertain. We do that at Dens Park."

This sort of attitude is killing the game. Incidentally, Rangers won 2-0 thanks to two own-goals.

DONALD STEVENSON, GLASGOW.

● Most managers think Gemmell's way. The emphasis is always on the home team to break down the visitors — like it or not, it's a fact of soccer life.

Absurd?

YOUR feature "12 of the best money can buy" was nothing less than absurd. Liam Brady worth £550,000 more than Osvaldo Ardiles? And £50,000 more than Kenny Dalglish? Doubtful to say the least.

Out of your 12, there were five non-established full internationals. GORDON BORELAND, BELFAST.

● One must take into consideration age, and Brady is younger than either Ardiles or Dalglish. Surely a great 23-year-old would fetch more than a great 28-year-old ... or is that absurd?

Helpful Police

DURING my recent visit to England I saw a couple of games and was surprised how lenient the police were towards hooligans ... and how helpful they were to the true fans.

They stopped a terrace fight without much violence; the Swedish police are wild animals in comparison.

ANDERS HEDELL, TUSSMOTER.

● I've yet to come across a better police force than our own. I marvel at the way they restrain themselves in the face of such provocation at times.

Sunderland Rule

WHO'S the Sunderland fan at the BBC? Four appearances on Match of the Day in six weeks. And I thought Jimmy Hill was a Coventry supporter ...

CHRIS PADDEN, WEST NORWOOD.

● The coverage hasn't done the Rokerites much good. Instead of setting the pace, they've had a mid-table position.

● All letters sent to SHOOT must be exclusive to this magazine.

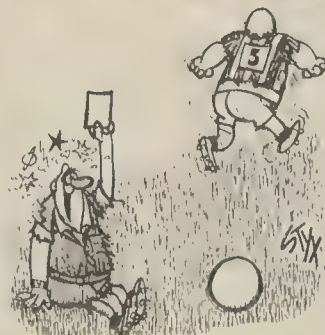
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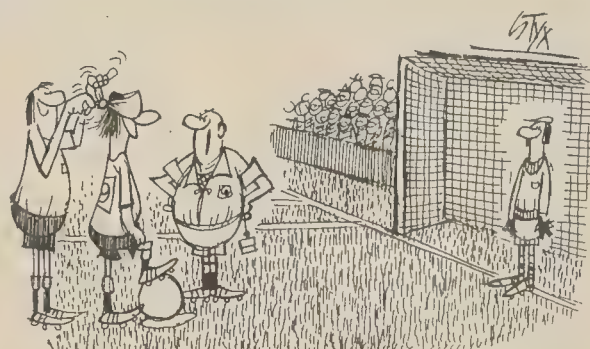
"Someone might have told me they signed on the Incredible Hulk"



"I've found out what it's all about, Charlie. Ron Greenwood's in the director's box"



"I think he's pulled a back muscle"



"What exactly is it you're trying to prove?"

'Why I didn't go to West Brom'

DISCIPLINARY action by the Football Association has thrown English League clubs into confusion and dried up possibly their greatest goldmine of young talent... Scottish schools.

The F.A. fined Wolves £500, severely censured them and warned them as to their future conduct because they approached a young player still at school North of the border and so broke a legislation which states: "English clubs must not, in any circumstances, approach boys who are still on the roll of schools in Scotland."

The ruling has been the law for several seasons, but had never been enforced until the Scottish Football Association urged their English counterparts to take some action.

And now I understand most of England's leading clubs have sent a hold-fire message to their Scottish scouts until they find a way around the legislation. Meanwhile the Press in Scotland are carrying stories about storms of protest from the South.

One paper carried a quote from Tony Barton, assistant-manager of Aston Villa and a man responsible

for the club's youth policy, which said: "We don't know what to do now. Over 80 per cent of the clubs in England did not know about the rule until Wolves were fined and it certainly means all sorts of problems."

"I believe the top clubs in England will have to get together and put a recommendation to the F.A. to approach the S.F.A. to renegotiate the situation."

'Parents'

"I can well understand the Scottish clubs' point of view but boys should have their own choice in this and parents should be allowed to send their lads South."

And Barnsley's chief scout in Scotland was quoted as saying: "It is intolerable. This legislation is depriving the boys of a chance of a lifetime. In any other business except football no one would stand for this sort of thing."

Football, of course, is not like any other business and strange things do happen in the game.

I can understand the anger of the English sides, for Scottish schools have proved to be an incredible source of star players over the years, including Scottish internationals John Wark and George

Burley of Ipswich, Asa Hartford, who went to West Brom, and Frank and Eddie Gray, who started at Leeds.

I know that John Wark firmly believes his career would never have gone this far had he not been picked up by Ipswich straight from school.

And certainly a top club down South can spend more time and effort in tuition and passing on know-how to a lad of 15 or so. The feeling of the big time atmosphere will do a boy no harm either.

But it doesn't always work that way. I was invited down to West Brom as a 15-year-old but refused to go because any boy attached to a senior club could not play in the Scottish Schools international side and I reckoned I had more chance of being picked up if I played in that team.

Who knows what might have happened with West Brom, but I reckon I made the right move.

Having said all of that, I am not convinced that I agree with this legislation!

Sure, it means Scottish clubs can have the cream of the crop. No, indeed, all of the crop, without any competition from the South.

And it stops the underhand way some English sides operate, with

Tartan Talk

DANNY McGRAIN



cash payments to parents and other incentives to boys to go South.

But shouldn't Scottish clubs be able to compete on their own terms? After all, they are near the boys and should be able to get to the good players first. Scottish clubs cannot afford to compete with the cash handouts offered from England and, indeed, should not have to get involved in crooked payments.

Teenagers are individuals and different kids react to different treatment. For some, not being picked up by the age of 15 is a nightmare which can lead to heartbreak, and that is sad for boys can make enormous leaps in their mental and physical development in their late teens.

Others suddenly grow up and mature in the atmosphere of a big club.

Roy Aitken of Celtic, for example, is still only 20 but is as much a man as anyone at Parkhead and Murdo MacLeod is only a few months older. He, too, has profited by the goings on of the big time.

I know of a player who has gone South for a month and never saw the manager of the club once. That is bad in anyone's book.

I can't knock the fact that Scottish football must come first for Scots, for that is the philosophy I have always preached and the SFA are taking care of their own. And I salute them for that.

It is just a bit sad that they have to do so at the expense of freedom of choice, that is all.

See you in two weeks...

Danny McGrain



MURDO MacLEOD



EDDIE GRAY

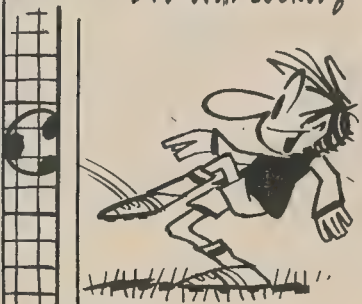


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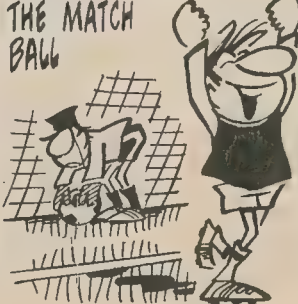
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SHOOT 2

SPECIAL REPORT ON

SCOTLAND'S MOST

GORDON STRACHAN was going nowhere fast. He was the type of player other professionals and managers looked at and said: "Yes, he's good... but there's something lacking somewhere."

Strachan had skill, talent, and ability.

In short he should have been a successful player in a successful team, but he was not. He was with troubled Dundee, languishing in the First Division away from the spotlight of the Premier Division, and he looked like becoming a player everyone reckoned was good, but was never going to be great.

That same Strachan is now one of the most improved players in Scotland. A young man of incredible vision who can see clearly where he is going in the future.

Strachan, now with Aberdeen, thrives on responsibility,

MATCH-WINNER STRACHAN

ity, demands attention and is not slow to parade his considerable talents in front of rival fans.

Pittodrie manager Alex Ferguson doesn't make a habit of singling out individuals. He prefers to talk about the team effort rather than the display of one character, but even Fergie is allowed a weakness when he says: "When Gordon Strachan applies himself to the game he can be a match-winner."

And Strachan has application in abundance! There were times in the past, frankly, when he disappeared from a game. He became a ghost of the player he can be.

Putting your finger on why that should happen is difficult. The player himself would probably be first in the queue to find out. The fade, though, is not in evidence this season.

Strachan is the mastermind in the Aberdeen set-up, the man through whom the play flows. Players look to him when they need support, the defence searches for him when they want to link with attack.

The player is responding with dynamic performances. Rangers have twice been on the receiving end of his outstanding displays this season.

Aberdeen won their opening League match against the Ibrox men by 3-1 and Strachan engineered their victory, plotting their way through the 90 minutes and rarely putting a foot wrong in a performance that almost bordered on the arrogant.

The game was heading for a 1-1 draw when he collected a ball in



the middle of the park. The Rangers rearguard backed off, picking up the Aberdeen front men.

In a flash, Strachan sized up the situation and raced towards the goal. He swept past a couple of challenges before he was crash-tackled by Gregor Stevens and sent sprawling inside the penalty box.

The referee had no option but to award a spot-kick. Strachan took it himself and thrashed the ball into the corner of the net. Near the end Doug Rougvie netted a third after some more clever play by Strachan and two points were secured for the Pittodrie side.

Rangers, warned about the mood and attitude of Strachan, went North for their League Cup tie with every idea of setting up camp in midfield. Manager John Greig gave a midfield role to the basically defensive-minded Alex Miller, but again Strachan decided to run the show.

He was buzzing around all evening, picking up the ball, spraying it around, swinging it high, sending it low. He also had time to fire in two magnificent drives in the first-half that brought astounding saves

out of Peter McCloy.

The Ibrox men found it difficult to combat Strachan and from a dead-ball situation — Strachan is superb at these — Aberdeen took the lead with a glancing header from Willie Garner. Strachan set up number two when he drove a long ball from deep in defence into the tracks of John McMaster and, after a bit of pin-ball soccer in the Rangers defence, Joe Harper scored.

Aberdeen eventually won 3-1, and the man of the night was undoubtedly Strachan. His performance that evening was spell-binding. Rangers manager Greig, in trying to keep his skills quiet, pulled off Alex MacDonald, normally so competitive, and put on Tommy McLean, but there was just no way Strachan was going to fade from the picture.

Alex Ferguson is fortunate to have a player such as Strachan around. And no wonder Fergie's face lights up when he looks around the Pittodrie scene and sees other youngsters such as Stevie Archibald, Alex McLeish, Willie Miller etc., all providing such awesome entertainment.

Some of the top talent in Britain is at Pittodrie. It's worth the admission money alone to see the new, improved Strachan!

Another player who has made rapid advancing steps is Celtic's JOHNNY DOYLE, an exciting raider who has sometimes tried far too hard for his own good.

The turning point in his career came last season when he was sensationally ordered off against Rangers in the match that Celtic eventually won 4-2 to clinch the Premier Division Championship.

"I was sick about that sending off," says Doyle. "I really let my team-mates down that night."

"The boys wanted me to join in on the celebrations after the game, but I found it difficult because of what had happened. Naturally I was delighted we had lifted the title, but we might have lost and I know I would have been largely to blame."

"My mates pulled through without me and they deserve the utmost praise. I learned my lesson that night."

Doyle, in fact, had to be persuaded to join the players out on the pitch to take a bow in front of their cheering, chanting Celtic fans after the end of the game.

Manager Billy McNeill, never likely to accept any lack of discipline in the club, fined Doyle for being ordered off. Doyle accepted the punishment readily.

Doyle's displays are much more mature these days. To illustrate that point we again take the trip to Pittodrie.

In a League match against Aberdeen this season Celtic went 1-0 down in only two minutes when Strachan — that man again —

scored. It might have been offs and some Celtic players allowed that decision to break their concentration.

All hell let loose when Tommy Burns fouled Strachan and was ordered off. It was an explosive atmosphere, but Doyle, once the hot-head of Scottish soccer, remained cool.

Boss McNeill later praised Doyle for a "disciplined performance." It was praise well earned for the former Ayr United outside-right — once sent-off while playing against Celtic! — refused to get involved in the physical side of things and concentrated on playing good football.

It certainly paid handsome dividends. Celtic won 2-1... and Doyle got the winner near the end when he stroked home a low cross from Bobby Lennox.

The Pittodrie match had been a bad tempered confrontation with another four players booked, but Doyle deserved great credit for keeping a cool head in such hectic circumstances.

Another player with hardly the best of disciplinary records is Morton midfielder player BOBBY THOMPSON, who, ironically enough, shares a distinction with Doyle... he, too, has taken an early bath while playing against Celtic for former club St. Johnstone.

Thompson is a player with a mammoth appetite for the game.

DISCIPLINED DOYLE



IMPROVED PLAYERS



THOMPSON-MANAGER'S DREAM

He rushes around getting involved and it is because of his sheer combative nature that he sometimes lands in trouble with authority.

But, otherwise, the player is a manager's dream and Cappelow boss Benny Rooney did marvellous work in the transfer market when he parted with reserve full-back Tom McNeill and £10,000 to bring Thompson to Greenock from the Perth Saints.

However, do not get the idea that Thompson, capped last season by Jock Stein at Scottish League level, is just all hustle and bustle. Andy Ritchie may be the headline-snatcher at Cappelow, but without a player like Thompson to play alongside him, Scotland's Player of the Year might not be so effective.

Thompson's transfer value has, of course, rocketed with his eye-catching displays in the Premier Division. Oldham offered around £70,000 for him last season and were immediately turned down. In the close season they came in with another bid. This time it was said to be something in the £150,000 region. Again their move was knocked back.

Now, we hear, believe it or not, that Oldham are prepared to make another offer. Don't be surprised if it is turned down yet again. Manager Rooney says frankly: "Bobby Thompson is very much part of my plans here at Cappelow. I am not interested in wrecking this team."

DAVIE COOPER, Rangers' roving raider, isn't one to get involved in football feuding. In fact, the Ibrox fans accused him of lacking com-

mitment to the club.

When he was bought from Clydebank for £100,000 three seasons ago he arrived at Ibrox with a glowing reputation. After all, he had already been involved in Scottish international squads while Ally MacLeod was the team manager.

His blistering shooting power thrilled the Rangers fans as he sent scorching efforts raining down on shell-shocked goalkeepers; but, after initial success, Cooper faded and found himself dropping out of the first team.

This season, though, has seen a marked improvement in his play and he has done enough to convince Jock Stein into giving him his first full cap against Peru at Hampden in September.

Cooper is a thrilling sight when he is in full flight, skipping past defenders with mesmerising footwork and, topping the good work, with a bombardment of shots on target.

It's taken a while for Cooper to settle in at Ibrox, but he is making the grade now ... there is no doubt about that.

Another player with a frightening shot is Partick Thistle's bundle of energy DONALD PARK, who likes nothing better than to have a whack at the ball. He hits the leather like he never wants to see that ball again and it's little wonder that some 'keepers quiver with

SUPER COOPER



POWER-HOUSE PARK



apprehension when he lines up to take a free-kick.

Park seemed to have lost his way when he was with Hearts. Like Strachan at Dundee, he did some clever things, but total recognition was never going to come his way unless he moved on.

That's what happened last season when Partick's astute manager Bertie Auld worked a swap deal with Tynecastle boss Willie Ormond. Auld parted with John Craig and Dennis McQuade for Park and certainly got the better of the deal, particularly when you consider that Ormond eventually freed both the former Thistle players at the end of the term.

Park has fitted in wonderfully with Thistle and keeps on improving with every game.

Gordon Strachan, Johnny Doyle, Bobby Thompson, Davie Cooper and Donald Park have all worked well at their game and they undoubtedly deserve the praise that now comes their way. They might have given up when things weren't running smoothly, but they dedicated themselves to their skills and time has shown that they have triumphed.

Soccer could do with more players of such character!

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DON sprang to prominence during Swindon Town's tremendous League Cup run of season 1968-69.

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But Rogers and his team-mates from the Third Division had other ideas.

Two goals from Don and one from Roger Smart caused one of the biggest upsets in the League Cup history as the Wiltshire club triumphed 3-1 after extra-time.

"That game will always be special to me," remembers Rogers. "We certainly upset the odds on that day."

Don was later transferred to Crystal Palace and then on to Queens Park Rangers before he ended his career where it all started — at Swindon.

Nowadays, the former winger is busy with his sports shop in Swindon which he has run for the past 12 years. Occasionally he plays for the Don Rogers Sports Shop team.

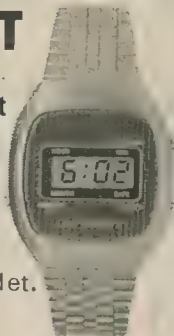
"I don't go to watch many games nowadays," he says, "although I am glad Swindon are playing some good football and I would love to see them clinch promotion to the Second Division."



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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

JIMMY Adamson's first birthday as Leeds United's manager scarcely merited a party. Even the 49-year-old former Burnley defender admits that.

"I'll save the celebrations until we've won something," he told SHOOT. But he insists that his opening 12 months at Elland Road have not been the failure some success-starved United fans claim.

Adamson supports his arguments by pointing out that in the 42 League games under his leadership — the equivalent of a full season — Leeds won 17 and drew 17 with only eight defeats. Their goal record was 64 for and 46 against.

And that points tally of 51 would have been sufficient to qualify them for European competition most seasons.

"That's not a record to boast about," admits Adamson, "but neither is it one to be ashamed of. And we finished fifth last season, our highest placing since Leeds won the title under Don Revie.

"We've made a lot of progress behind the scenes — done a lot of work which doesn't capture the headlines but which is vital for a club with great ambitions.

"When I joined Leeds there was a huge gulf between the first team and the reserves and junior teams. By judicious signings of young players with potential and strengthening of the backroom staffs I believe we've narrowed

"The trouble with modern-day football is too many fans demand instant success," he says. "They fail to appreciate what's going on behind the scenes.

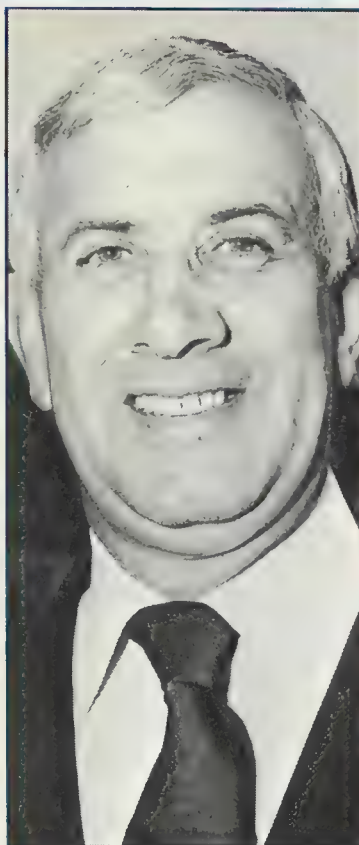
"To them I say: have patience because mine is a job that is done over a period of time."

He is well aware that some of his transfer deals have triggered off controversy on the terraces. The departure of skilful internationals like Tony Currie (£400,000 to Q.P.R.) and Frank Gray (£500,000 to Nottingham Forest) and last season's top scorer John Hawley to Sunderland for what looks like a bargain-price £200,000 has displeased those supporters who think the side is less entertaining — and sadly weakened — without this trio.

'Wisdom'

But he argues that he had to let Currie go because the England midfielder wanted to return to his native London. As for the sale of Gray and Hawley, he says: "I would prefer to be judged on the wisdom of those transfers in 12 months time. Just see how they're playing then."

Adamson, whose defensive and leadership qualities as captain of Burnley earned him the "Footballer of the Year" award in 1961-62, lays great store on selflessness, dedication and willingness to work for team-mates.



Leeds manager Jimmy Adamson has been under fire from supporters impatient for top honours once again.

It's significant that all his signings — Swansea striker Alan Curtis (£400,000), Sheffield United midfielder Gary Hamson (£140,000) and Sunderland's Wayne Entwistle (£80,000) — are noted for their endeavour. "They'll run their blood to water for Leeds," says their boss.

He recognises that a team which hopes to challenge for honours needs more than brawn and ambition, there must also be a generous helping of skill, he says, and reckons that his team stands fair comparison with most clubs on that score.

Leeds United have not exactly set the football world alight this season. They suffered a humiliating 7-0 thrashing by Arsenal in the League Cup Second Round and were recently beaten 2-1 by Spurs at Elland Road after the London club had been reduced to ten men and were forced to play Glenn Hoddle in goal.

Yet with goals in short supply and burly striker Ray Hankin clearly unsettled Adamson must be sorely tempted to spend the big cheque his board is willing to sign for a top-quality striker.

But the boss who has gained a reputation with Burnley — along with chief scout and long-standing friend Dave Blakey — as a discoverer of talent refuses to pay "the crazy prices being asked for very ordinary players."

He's prepared to build his own successful team — provided directors and fans don't lose their patience in their hunger for trophies.

LEEDS MUST WAIT FOR SUCCESS

that gap considerably.

"In a couple of seasons or so the full value of my contribution to Leeds' fortunes will be seen."

He is very optimistic about the club's long-term future. Unfortunately Yorkshire fans still hark back to the days of Don Revie when Leeds United were two of the most feared words in European football. They want success now.

And Adamson, while denying that he feels under undue pressure from either the public or his board of directors, acknowledges that he's "conscious of the deep desire in the city for another trophy success."

It's five years since Leeds, in 1973-74, won their second League Championship under Revie — just a few weeks before he became England manager. Happily the team is involved in the U.E.F.A. Cup this winter, but that minor triumph has not stopped the more vocal critics demanding Adamson's dismissal.

The steely-haired Geordie scarcely disguises his contempt for the tiny minority who chanted "Adamson out" after their home defeat by Spurs recently.

Leeds' flying winger Arthur Graham (right) contests this ball with Nottingham Forest's John Robertson, his chief rival for Scotland's number 11 shirt.



LEEDS UTD.

BACK ROW (left to right): Keith Parkinson, Paul Hart, John Lukic, Neil Firm, David Harvey, Ray Hankin, Byron Stevenson.

CENTRE ROW: Kevin Hird, Alan Curtis, Gary Hamson, John Hawley (now Sunderland), Eddie Gray.

FRONT ROW: Brian Flynn, Paul Madeley, Peter Hampton, Trevor Cherry, Arthur Graham, Carl Harris, Gwyn Thomas.





SHOOT!



A SUMMER of transfer madness is behind us. Managers have been left counting the cost and players their share of the goodies.

At Manchester City they have done their fair share of counting. At one stage during the close season there were so many comings and goings that the movement resembled that of the nearby Piccadilly railway station.

Amongst the big names who left were Peter Barnes and Gary Owen. Amongst those who joined City — Mick Robinson, Bobby Shinton and Steve MacKenzie. Steve who?

That was the question the whole football world was asking. Had Malcolm Allison gone mad? Paying £250,000 for a 17-year-old who had not even had a first team game at his former club Crystal Palace.

MacKenzie's was the one transfer which, for sheer audacity, out-paced all that had gone before it at Maine Road.

It is still far too early to tell, but the signs are that Allison has made one of the shrewdest moves of his colourful managerial career.

There is no doubt that MacKenzie has an extraordinary talent. Allison still has not stopped raving about his little gem. "He could tuck Gary Owen, whom I like a lot, into his pocket," he says.

"I came to Maine Road to do well," says MacKenzie. "But at the same time I'm not taking anything for granted. I know my limitations, and I try not to do things I know I'm not capable of."

Millions of television viewers watched MacKenzie do just that on the opening day of the season when he made his League debut for City. Ironically, against his former club.

MacKenzie strolled about with the arrogance that made a

nonsense of those 17 years.

And he is so pleased with the way things have gone that he's even reading the sports pages of newspapers again!

"I knew my move to City would spark off a lot of comment, but after all the initial fuss I made the decision that the best thing to do was just get on with the job.

"Not read what was being said. Just get down to training with City, settling in, and preparing to let my actions speak for themselves on the park.

'Appreciation'

"Now I'll just settle for doing a good job for City, justifying the faith shown in me, and winning the appreciation of the fans."

Oddly enough it could have been a different set of fans had London not allowed MacKenzie to slip away, albeit expensively.

"As a youngster several clubs had shown an interest in me," says MacKenzie. "Tottenham were one of them.

"They offered me terms, but by the time they moved, I had already been to see the set-up at Crystal Palace, and had set my heart on joining them."

He broke into Palace's reserve team as a 15-year-old, and was good enough then to hold down a regular place.

"I couldn't see myself making the first team though," says MacKenzie. "Terry Venables seemed very much inclined to settle for a certain side."

But Steve MacKenzie is a regular in the first team at Maine Road now with a quarter of a million pound price on his head. But the very cool young man seems more than capable of handling not only the demands of first team football, but that price tag too, and more.

'Cinderella' THOMAS walks tall

As a Welshman, Thomas is a rarity at Old Trafford. There's plenty of Irishmen, Scots and Englishmen... but Thomas is the only one from Wales.

"It's a bit of a nuisance sometimes. We have international five-a-sides at Old Trafford and the other countries are well represented. But I have to play in the All-Star team.

"I might tell the lads that I do the work of two players on the field, but even I can't be a one man five-a-side team!"

International football helped Thomas to make the move to Manchester United. "Dave Sexton first saw me in my Welsh debut against the West Germans.

"I think playing for Wales has helped me become a better player as well. It's good to face teams from other countries and compare the styles of play.

"I've always enjoyed playing for my country because of the big crowds, too.

"But we get bigger gates at Old Trafford than Wales get. So I've got it both ways really."

FOR Micky Thomas, even playing for his country doesn't compare with playing for Manchester United.

Welshman Thomas, who moved to United from Wrexham for £300,000 last season, still can't believe his luck.

He says: "I hope I never have to choose between club and country because I love playing for both. But if I did, United would just get the vote.

"It's a tremendous feeling going out in a United shirt and there's always a big crowd to watch us, home or away."

Being a United player has also raised Thomas' prestige among his Welsh international colleagues.

"When I first turned up for the Wales squad as a Wrexham player, nobody knew who I was.

"But they all know me now. Well, it sounds a lot better when you say you play for Manchester United doesn't it?"

Thomas has played a big part in

the United revival which took them to Wembley this year and maintaining their challenge for the League title.

United had been looking for someone to play wide on the left ever since the departure of Gordon Hill.

Several players tried on the silver slipper but it wasn't until the arrival of 'Cinderella' Thomas that manager Dave Sexton found someone whom it would fit.

Now Thomas and his United colleagues may make it to the League Championship ball after all.

They've made a flying start to the season and he says: "I don't see why we shouldn't keep it up. The tremendous support of our fans has helped us turn on some fine performances at home and we're picking up points away, too.

"Once you get a run going, the players start to believe they can do it and other teams don't find us easy to beat."



HIGH JINKS



Chelsea's Ron Harris (dark strip) outjumps Sunderland's Kevin Arnott at Stamford Bridge, while Derby defender Keith Osgood and Wolves striker Andy Gray (bottom right) battle it out.



Liverpool's Terry McDermott (dark strip) is clearly the winner (above) in the game against Arsenal, but any one of six could have won this tussle (below) in the Stirling Albion (dark shirts) v. Airdrie game!



READING SHOOT last week, I was interested in the article on Ray Wilson, perhaps the finest left-back ever to play for England.

Ray was, of course, a member of England's 1966 World Cup winning team. Not that I remember him playing. You see I was only eight at the time.

Naturally, I had an interest in football even at that age, but as you know only had eyes for Manchester United.

So it's not surprising the "old-timer" I know most about is Nobby Stiles, who not only played for the club I hero-worshipped, but was a team-mate of Ray Wilson's in the England side that won the World Cup 13 years ago.

The present Preston manager is only around 5ft. 5ins., but he was a real powerhouse in the tackle.

Nobby was labelled as "an animal" by certain critics, mostly foreign, yet from what I know he was never a dirty player.

He was simply a tremendous competitor, who hated being

beaten.

The little man with the lion's heart was passionate about playing for England. I doubt there are many of you older readers who don't recall Nobby's famous dance around Wembley after England's 1966 triumph.

Perhaps England have never really replaced Nobby. Despite Ron Greenwood's success since taking over the manager's job in the summer of 1977 I bet he would like to have a player with Nobby's character and ability to win the ball.

Watching Nobby disappearing into a melee of players and emerge with the ball was a sight that thrilled fans everywhere.

I haven't modelled myself on any particular defender, but have tried to adopt some of Nobby's professionalism and fighting spirit into my

own game.

Because of my admiration for this little man I always look for Preston's results on Saturdays.

Nobby's done a tremendous job over the past few years at Deepdale, just by keeping them in the Second Division.

At the moment they are about halfway in the table.

Playing in the First Division for Forest I come up against some of the best defenders in the game today ... players Nobby Stiles might even admire.

We are fortunate to have so many class defenders in this country at the moment ... players such as Liverpool's Phil Neal, the lad who is keeping me out of the England side.

Obviously, I'd like to take his place, but I've no complaints about

losing out to a player of Phil's ability. It's certainly no disgrace.

He's never let Liverpool or England down, is a great competitor and enjoys a challenge.

These days defenders have to be able to join in the attack and have an eye for goal.

Apart from being a tiger in the tackle, Phil does score goals. I believe he got into double figures last season.

Phil's Liverpool colleague Phil Thompson is another of today's defenders I admire.

Reading of situations is Phil's main strength. He's also a great sweeper behind his defence. In fact I'd say he's the best in Europe at that role.

Playing alongside Phil in the heart of England's rearguard is Dave Watson, just back in this country follow-

'England could

ing his surprise transfer from Werder Bremen to Southampton.

Apparently things didn't work out too well for big Dave in West Germany.

When you've got a couple of kids of school age, have to live in a hotel, and don't speak a word of the language it must be very difficult to settle down and concentrate on playing football.

Being sent-off so early in his career with his new club hardly helped the situation, either.

Although he's 32-years-of-age, Dave is still the best centre-half available to England manager Ron Greenwood.

Even though he's an international colleague I can't say he's the best in the world, though. That honour must go to the Arsenal and Republic of Ireland number five Dave O'Leary.

Apart from his defensive capabilities, Dave has so much skill and vision he almost doubles as a midfielder.

The nearest England have to a centre-half with Dave's all-round skills is Roy MacFarland, the Derby skipper.

But for his injury problems over the past few seasons I'm sure he would still figure in Ron Greenwood's plans.

Someone else playing well enough to get another England chance is my Forest team-mate Larry Lloyd.

I can't praise the big man enough for his performances this season. The manager Brian Clough reckons Larry is playing better now than at any time in his career.

A defender I both admire and feel sorry for, is West Brom full-back Derek Statham.

In another era he would probably have been England's regular left-back, but at present he has so much competition.

The youngster who generally gets more recognition than Derek is Crystal Palace's Kenny Sansom.

Although I haven't really seen Kenny play a full game, I've heard all about his ability.



Nobby Stiles (below left) does his famous jig around Wembley with Bobby Moore and Geoff Hurst after England's 1966 World Cup success

MY SOCCER
WORLD
Viv
Anderson

Speed is Kenny's greatest asset. He's also got a tremendous left-foot and can score goals. Also, for a player who is not all that tall he is so powerful in the air.

David Peach is a full-back I've got a lot of time for. In fact we made our England Under-21 debuts together against Italy.

David helped me a great deal during my early international days coaxing me, urging me on. He speaks to his team-mates all the time, coaching them, telling them where to put balls.

I believe he's the highest goal-scoring full-back in Football League history. Most of his efforts may come from penalties, but you've still got to put them away.

Before I move on to England's recent 5-1 victory in Belfast, I'd just like to give a mention to another



Viv was glad to see Trevor Francis (light shirt) score two against Northern Ireland.

still use a NOBBY STILES'

defender who impresses every time I see him play... Brighton's Mark Lawrenson.

He's got a broken ankle at the moment, but I understand is well on the road to recovery.

When we beat Brighton 3-1 in the League Cup last season, Mark was absolutely brilliant. He worked non-stop for his team-mates. Certainly a player I'd have in any team of mine.

Now then... what about England's fine performance against Northern Ireland recently?

To score five goals, or four because one was an own-goal, away from home against any opposition at international level just has to be recognised as a fine performance.

What made the victory even more satisfying for me, was the fact that my Forest team-mates Trevor Francis and Tony Woodcock scored two goals apiece. It was a real Forest effort.

So at least England silenced all those critics who claimed we are a side who relies on Kevin Keegan too much.

Now we must concentrate on beating Bulgaria just as convincingly at Wembley on November 21st.

Just enough space to mention Saturday's (November 3rd) match at home to Ipswich... when Forest will come face-to-face with yet another defender I certainly wouldn't like to play against, Mick Mills.

My England colleague is a tremendous professional, totally dedicated to the game and Ipswich.

Like me, Mick is an adventurous full-back who loves going forward whenever possible.

I realise Ipswich haven't exactly set the First Division scene alight so far this season, but Forest won't be underestimating their potential.

We managed to beat them 1-0 in last season's corresponding game. I'm expecting another hard tussle.

All the best...

Viv Woodward

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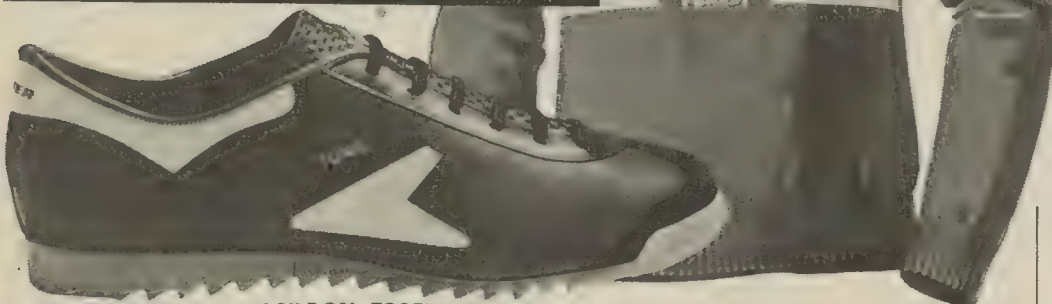
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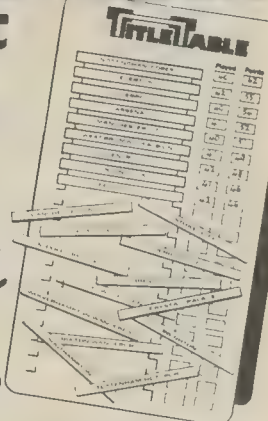
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Laurie Cunningham has struggled to find his form for Real Madrid, but against Barcelona scored one of the goals in his side's 3-2 win.

Laurie-loads of pesetas

LAURIE Cunningham may not be setting Spain alight with his football skills just yet, but there's no doubt that he's fulfilling most of his financial ambitions at Real Madrid. The Spanish season is slow to get under way, and the ex-West Bromwich winger has only played a handful of games so far — but Laurie certainly won't be cleaning windows to make up his pay packet!

Real's first two home games were the difficult ones against Mario Kempes' Valencia and Hans Krankl's Barcelona. Laurie scored twice in the 3-1 victory over Valencia and once in the 3-2 win over Barcelona, helping the team towards their £700 a man bonus. "Black Flash" played only 26 minutes in the away derby against Rayo Vallecano, but that didn't stop him qualifying for the £490 win bonus. And he was disappointing in Real's 1-1 away draw with newly-promoted Almeria... but picked up the £350 bonus.

Laurie's injury sustained in the Rayo match meant that he only played in one leg of Real's European Cup triumph against the Bulgarians of Levski Spartak, but most British players would be delighted with the "half-bonus" he received.

The arithmetic is impressive. In his first month of competitive football in Madrid, Laurie has picked up bonuses totalling £2,600. Add in his £490 a month

salary and the appropriate chunk of his £85,000-a-year signing-on fee, and you'll readily see that the black winger's first six appearances have netted him just over £10,000!

In the meantime, Laurie has been living in a £175-a-week apartment since his arrival at the end of July, though he and girl friend Nikki are now on the point of buying a house in the country on the outskirts of Madrid to have "a bit of garden and some peace and quiet." This is likely to cost between £40,000 and £60,000 depending on the area they finally settle down in, but Laurie reckons this is money well invested, as his contract with Real Madrid will keep him in the Spanish capital until mid-1984.

Meanwhile Laurie's form has been unsensational — as he's the first to admit. "It's difficult settling in, and Spanish man-to-man marking just doesn't give me the sort of space I like to work in. It'll come, but it takes time."

Time is the big problem, as Real's schedule of twice-daily training sessions and long pre-match concentrations in hotels have left Laurie with little time to sort out a settled domestic life. In that way, the Spanish League's two-week break in early October was a god-send. "It's been a bit of a hassle to find a really good house," says Laurie. But with the rewards he's reaping, it's a hassle that's worth while!

Rebellion in BRAZIL

BRAZILIAN clubs have risen in rebellion. Twelve of them met in Rio and produced a document grandly called the Letter from Rio de Janeiro in which they outlined the reforms that they think should be carried out as soon as possible by the soon-to-be-formed Brazilian Football Confederation (substituting for the CBD, or Brazilian Sports Confederation).

Two weeks after that, their numbers swelled to 21; they met again, this time in Porto Alegre, and signed another letter, largely repeating the terms of the first. But this time they were in for a surprise.

The President of the Republic, who was attending a football game with them, asked — and got — permission to sign the letter as well.

The only problem now is to find out which club he represents...

WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

ATHLETIC Bilbao, the Spanish club who offered Bobby Robson a lucrative contract to take over as manager, are firmly rooted at the bottom of the Spanish League after failing to get a single point in the first month of the programme. Bilbao have never been relegated from the Spanish First Division since it was founded in 1928, and have never dropped below 11th position. But this year their fans are beginning to get worried...

BRAZILIAN referee Zanotto was incensed at the criticism he and his colleagues had been subjected to and by the fact that he was not to referee the major clash between Atlético and Londrina in Paraná that in his next match he ordered a minute's silence prior to kick-off to show his disgust.

The Paraná Association has suspended him for 30 days which will probably be increased to 120 days after the meeting of the disciplinary committee.

MARSEILLE and France defender Marius Trésor has opened a sports shop with a difference. The idea is to provide top sports clubs and organisations with special foods designed to give optimum muscle conditions.

THE Brazil Cup got under way on September 16th with — wait for it — 96 clubs. A total of 556 matches will be played in less than three months, clubs being divided into six groups of 13 and two of nine. The First Round will run until November 23rd with each group's winner and runner-up qualifying for the Semi-Final stage, 16 clubs in all.

The first Semi-Final will be played on December 2nd as a one-match qualifying tournament. The eight winners will go through another qualifying tie on December 5th with the four winners resulting from these matches qualifying for yet another tie on December 9th.

The Final is to be played on a home and away basis on December 12th and 16th.

MARADONA opens fire on his club

ARGENTINA's top "crack" (as they call their superstars), Diego Maradona, is once again livid with the directors of his club, Argentinos Juniors, following the dismissal of Brazilian manager Delem.

"They've done a great job here," says the 19-year-old international midfielder. "Both Delem and his assistant Daguirre. And their dismissal just goes to show that the directors haven't got a clue about running the club."

Meanwhile, ex-River Plate and Independiente player Miguel Lopez has been appointed as the new manager at Argentinos, who've had a disappointing campaign in the National Championship — largely due to Maradona's continual absences with

the national team at both Senior and Youth level.

But, perhaps more ominously, Diego's outburst against the Argentinos directors are becoming increasingly frequent. He slammed them for not signing "Tucu" Meza (one of the Argentina Youth Team that carried off the world title) after having him on loan for a season.

And he claims that they sabotaged a possible move to Barcelona earlier in the year.

Maradona may be trying to pave the way for a lucrative transfer (he stands to gain 15 per cent of a seven-figure fee), but it's sad to see this modest, humble youngster gradually getting more and more a superstar complex.



Pictures show Maradona in action against River Plate... and showing his frustration after missing an easy chance. "I'm saturated with football," he said afterwards. Saturated with football — at 19!

UDO LATTEK

Europe's most successful coach

THE team of the moment in West Germany are Borussia Dortmund — yet before the Bundesliga opened none of the "experts" tipped the Rhinelanders to be successful.

Dortmund's last Championship was 16 years ago and last season they finished 12th in the 18-club Super League.

The man behind Dortmund's rise is 44-year-old Udo Lattek, who led Bayern Munich and Borussia Mönchengladbach to so much success. People thought Lattek was a good coach of good teams, but now he is proving himself by shaping last season's failures into the League leaders of 1979/80.

Lattek became coach of Bayern in 1970 and during the past decade has become Europe's most successful manager.

In successive seasons, Lattek led Bayern to three Championships and a German Cup win, and followed that with the club's first European Cup triumph in 1974.

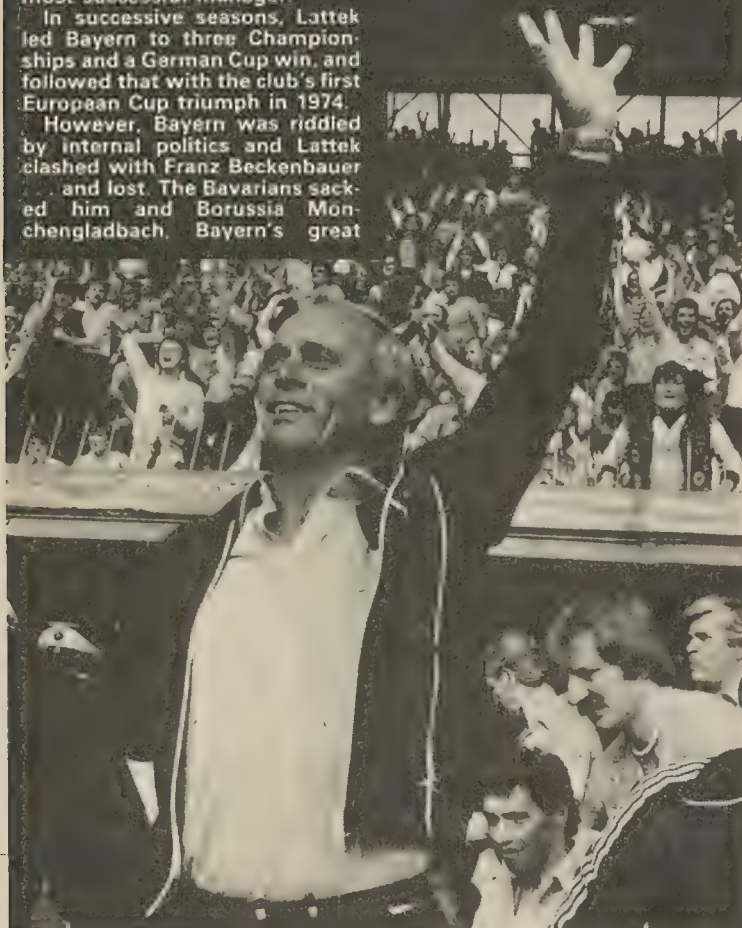
However, Bayern was riddled by internal politics and Lattek clashed with Franz Beckenbauer and lost. The Bavarians sacked him and Borussia Mönchengladbach, Bayern's great

rivals, eagerly offered him a job. Lattek guided Borussia to the Bundesliga Championship in 1976 and 1977, when they lost the European Cup Final 3-1 to Liverpool in Rome.

Only goal-difference robbed Borussia of another title in 1978 and while the club had a disappointing League season last time round, they still managed to win the U.E.F.A. Cup.

Lattek decided he needed a new challenge and so far his run of virtually non-stop success looks like continuing. Borussia Dortmund were relegated in 1972 and only regained their Bundesliga status three years ago.

Now, thanks to the Lattek magic, they are in line for the title.



AFTER showing ten yellow and three red cards during a match between Guarapuava and Colorado, in Paraná, Brazilian referee Amir de Oliveira had a brick thrown at his head as he left the stadium.

After ten days of intensive treatment, he was released from hospital and was called to the F.A.'s headquarters to explain why he had shown so many cards in what had been one of the most peaceful matches ever to be played in the Paraná League. His answer: "What do you mean 13 cards in all? I only showed three yellow cards!" Whether or not he was just trying to clear himself is unknown. He has been sacked anyway.

BRAZIL's new centre-forward sensation, Sócrates, has already been approached by three Italian clubs — Inter-Milan, Roma and Napoli, who are all prepared to pay a fortune for the player. Sócrates, however, says he will study any offer received very carefully, but he would only sign after the 1982 World Cup. Any proposal will have to guarantee Sócrates (a qualified doctor of medicine) a post graduate position in a leading Italian hospital.

Top U.S.A. striker plays for Chile

IN Chile the authorities have decided that the national team is short of goalscoring strikers if they're to make any impact against Peru, Paraguay and Brazil in the Semi-Finals of the South American Championship. And their solution is to rush through naturalisation papers for Oscar Fabbiani — an Argentinian who's topped the USA scoring charts this year with Tampa Bay Rowdies!

Fabbiani is legally Argentinian, but has spent his whole career in Chile. In fact, he's never played for an Argentinian club! His children already have Chilean nationality, and Fabbiani has announced that he'd be delighted to take Chilean nationality in order to make a late start (he's 29) on an international career.



AS Roma's summer signing from Parma, 20-year-old striker Carlo Ancelotti, has been disappointing in pre-season friendlies. Roma boss Nils Liedholm tried to find out what was wrong with him, for he cost more than £600,000, and found that he was lonely in Rome and missed his girl-friend Luisa Gibellini, a sculptress. Liedholm arranged for Ancelotti's mother to join him in Rome, but it hasn't helped and it seems that she is no substitute for his beloved Luisa.

News flashes

BRANKO Zebec, coach of Hamburger SV, never takes his wife, Dusica, to matches but he did take her to Iceland for HSV's first European Cup tie in Reykjavik. The reason was it coincided with his 26th wedding anniversary.

HUNGARY'S new coach Dr Karoly Lakat got off on the right foot in his first game, beating Czechoslovakia 2-1 in a friendly. Lakat brought in five players from provincial clubs and also brought back 35-year-old Ferenc Bene, now technical director of Ujpest Dozsa, who plays for pleasure for a Division Three club on Sundays. That was Bene's 75th cap.

THE Russians are hoping they have found a new goalscoring star to match the skills of Eduard Streltsov of the 60s. Yuri Tschesnokov of CSKA, the Moscow Army team, has scored two hat-tricks this season, and in the whole of the 1978 campaign only three hat-tricks were scored... by different players.

AFTER spending two years in the Italian First Division Foggia now find themselves more than £5 million in debt. It would have been cheaper not to have been promoted!

THE recent Leverkusen — 1. FC Cologne Bundesliga game produced "English" figures. In an after-match riot five policemen and 27 fans were taken to hospital.

SWEDISH T.V. sent a camera crew to cover the Belgian League game between Waterschei and Standard Liège because two Swedish strikers were on view. They couldn't have asked for a better day as Ohlsson scored Waterschei's goal and Ralf Edström netted two of Liège's three goals.

BECAUSE of trouble between the Flemish people and the Walloons in Belgium, the government decided to issue a special assembly-prohibition, which meant no groups of more than five people were allowed. Therefore, the local side, Voeren, can't play any matches until the ban is lifted.

DESSEL Sport beat Tilleur 7-0 in a Belgian Third Division game. Nothing TOO unusual about that... but Tilleur had to field a side of reserves and youngsters. Their first-team was on strike because their manager was "unjustly" sacked. Player Power Rules, O.K.

AC Milan's new team transport is a luxury coach that cost more than £60,000. It is equipped with hot showers, massage facilities, beds, and everything to make hot meals en route to games.

FC Nürnberg have introduced a new disciplinary system. If one of their players is shown a yellow card he will be fined £25. A second yellow with cost £50; a third £100 and a fourth £200.

SPANISH club Celta's annual general meeting was a stormy affair as the board of directors announced that, apart from being relegated to the Second Division, the club had made a loss of £588,000 last season. At one stage tempers got so heated that the meeting had to be suspended for ten minutes while a punch-up between shareholders was being sorted out!

SOUTH American Champions Olimpia still head the Paraguayan League, even though their form has slumped since they clinched their international triumph against Boca Juniors in Buenos Aires, and two of their top stars, captain Talavera and striker Villalba, have been transferred to foreign clubs. At the moment, Olimpia head the table with 22 points; Libertad are second with 20; and Guarani lead the main pack with 17.

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February games

What were the English First Division results on the day I was born — 10th February, 1962?

**MARK WARD,
COVENTRY.**

● These were the scores, Mark. Birmingham 1, Arsenal 0; Blackburn 3, Chelsea 0; Blackpool 1, Villa 2; Everton 2, Burnley 2; Fulham 1, Ipswich 2; Manchester City 0, Manchester Utd. 2; Sheffield Wed. 1, Leicester 2; Spurs 4, Forest 2; West Bromwich 6, Bolton 2; West Ham 1, Sheffield Utd. 2. And your local lads from Coventry won 3-2 at Peterborough in the Third Division.

Scotland in Europe

Which was the first Scottish club to play in one of the major modern European competitions?

**PETER GULLINE,
DALRYMPLE**

● Hibernian take that honour, Peter — in the European Champions Cup in its very first season of 1955-56.

For that matter, they were the first British club — because, though Chelsea qualified from England, they were persuaded by the Football League to withdraw for fear of "jeopardising their domestic arrangements by overcrowding their fixture-list." (Imagine any club being asked to withdraw, let alone accepting, today!)

Anyway, Hibs didn't do too badly — putting out Rot-Weiss Essen (West Germany) and Djurgården (Sweden), before going down to French Champions Reims in the Semi-Finals.

SHORT PASSES

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Dalglish and Jordan

Please settle an argument — what were the dates of the full international debuts of Kenny Dalglish and Joe Jordan?

**LIM HU,
SINGAPORE**

● Although Dalglish has gained quite a few more Scottish caps, Lim, there wasn't all that much in it with their debuts, time-wise.

Both did so coming on as sub — Dalglish in the 1-0 win against Belgium at Aberdeen on 10th November, 1971, and Jordan in the 1-0 defeat by England at Wembley on 19th May, 1973.

Greenwood's record

Could you tell me the results of England's full internationals under Ron Greenwood?

**S. WILSON,
MARLOW**

● After Liverpool's record 11 League title wins come Arsenal with eight, and Everton and Manchester United with seven each.

(**RUTH JONES, Coventry**)

● Up to the start of this season, Martin Peters had played 302 League games (79 goals) for West Ham, 189 (46 goals) for Spurs, and 167 (36 goals) for Norwich.

(**LOUISE STANBROOK,
Poole**)

● West Ham's highest League scorer in a single season is still Vic Watson (41 in Div One in 1929-30).

(**DARREN SWEENEY,
Watford**)

● Here they are, in chronological order, with England's score first — Switzerland (H) 0-0; Luxembourg (A) 2-0; Italy (H) 2-0; West Germany (A) 1-2; Brazil (H) 1-1; Wales (A) 3-1; N Ireland (H) 1-0; Scotland (A) 1-0; Hungary (H) 4-1; Denmark (A) 4-3; Eire (A) 1-1; Czechoslovakia (H) 1-0; N Ireland (H) 4-0; N Ireland (A) 2-0; Wales (H) 0-0; Scotland (H) 3-1; Bulgaria (A) 3-0; Sweden (A) 0-0; Austria (A) 3-4; Denmark (H) 1-0; N Ireland (A) 5-1.

And that all adds up to a pretty healthy record of 14 wins, five draws and two defeats — with a goal-tally of 42 to 15.

Sweet sixteen

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**RUSSELL FRENCH,
DORSET**

● Leicester's Arthur Chandler — whose 262 League goals between 1923 and 1935 is still a record aggregate for the club — holds that one, Russell.

In the 1924-25 season, he slotted at least one home in 16 successive Second Division games.

● Leicester's best win is 10-0 (v Portsmouth, Div One, 20th October, 1928); their worst defeat is 0-12 (v Nottingham Forest, Div One, 21st April, 1909).

(**JULIE SARKISSIAN,
Gibraltar**)

● The Chelsea team which beat Leeds 2-1 in the 1970 F.A. Cup Final replay was — Bonetti, Webb, McCreadie, Hollins, Dempsey, Harris, Baldwin, Houseman, Osgood, Hutchinson, Cooke, Sub, Hinton.

(**PAT LENEHAN, Eire**)

● Bradford Park Avenue were voted out of the Football League in 1970.

(**PHIL WHITHORN, Morecambe**)

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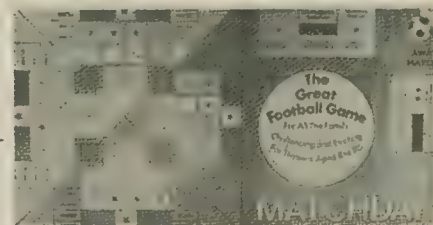
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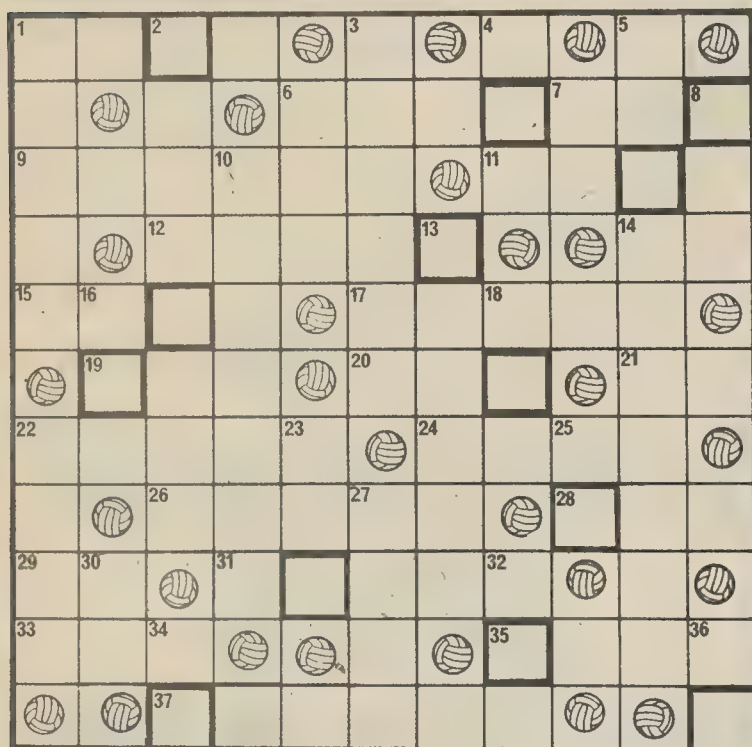
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Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Spurs midfield player. Answers on page 43.



ACROSS:—

- (1) — Street, home of St Mirren.
- (6) Distance travelled — to an away match, perhaps.
- (9) One of Norwich's colours.
- (11) The Fibula is one.
- (12) Go Ahead -----; Dutch League club.
- (14) M-dle-brough.
- (15) "The --lg-im-" (Plymouth Argyle). Tears from the omissions.
- (17) Praise enthusiastically.
- (19) Sir Stanley ---thews — a former England star.
- (20) Swan--- from Vetch Field.
- (21) Oak---ll, home of Barnsley.
- (22) Use five letters from Cappielow Park (Morton) to give a month.
- (24) Take four letters from Peter Shilton to give three!
- (26) Item of cutlery associated with Sheffield United nickname.
- (28) -o-qua- United, are nicknamed The Gulls.
- (29) W--ford.
- (31) — Armstrong of Spurs and N. Ireland.
- (33) Pl-m--th Argyle.
- (35) ---ilvi-w Park (Stenhousemuir). Repeat from the missing letters.
- (37) Edgar —, Hereford's ground.

DOWN:—

- (1) — Road, ground of Colchester United.
- (2) Ground of Fourth Division club from Burslem. (4 & 4)
- (3) Stan —, Queens Park Rangers midfielder.
- (4) Duncan F---es, former Norwich City defender.
- (5) — Road; Luton Town's ground.
- (6) Healthy trot!
- (7) ---ts County play in the Second Division.
- (8) A-r---ome Park, home of Middlesbrough.
- (10) Permanent or durable.
- (13) — City; English Third Division club from St James' Park.
- (16) Lincoln City are nicknamed The ---s.
- (18) S---k's Park, ground of Raith Rovers.
- (22) In some European matches these goals can count double.
- (23) Assume horizontal position.
- (25) ---aly knocked England out of the 1978 World Cup qualifying.
- (27) This kind of kick results from an infringement.
- (30) Gerry Pey---n, Fulham 'keeper.
- (32) Garry S-anl-- (Everton). The omissions reversed.
- (34) Martyn B---by of Q.P.R.
- (36) A.S. ---ma (Fairs Cup winners, 1961). The missing letters in reverse.

Go for SHOOT every week!

HEARTS FOR SALE

HEARTS, once proud, once mighty, are in serious danger of becoming the joke team of British soccer.

How can anyone take them seriously after recent events at Tynecastle? The players, unhappy at the proposed bonus money IF they win promotion at the end of the season, held a meeting and decided to put pressure on the board.

They asked for transfers every single Hearts player, all 25 of them, demanded a move at the same time.

It was a ridiculous, unprecedented action and, in the same vein, the Hearts board met to discuss the situation... **AND AGREED TO EVERY TRANSFER REQUEST!**

Can you blame the long-suffering Hearts fans, who have seen their favourites relegated twice in the past three years, for deciding to forget about football for a while and taking their support elsewhere?

Hearts are in trouble. The club that once threatened to topple the Old Firm of Celtic and Rangers as the giants of Scottish football are now in the doldrums.

The Tynecastle players have a habit of doing ludicrous things just when it seems they are at last beginning to see the light. In the early 70's NINE Hearts stars asked for a transfer after another bonus row before a match in the now-defunct Texaco Cup.

Then before a Scottish Cup tie against Dumbarton at Boghead two years ago the players threatened to go on strike unless their cash incentive was upped. Now comes this latest piece of nonsense.

It's a joke situation but Hearts fans will fail to see the funny side. It is hardly a laughing matter to see a once-feared club with a

glowing reputation bounce from one disaster to another.

One player puts it this way: "Of course we want to win promotion. We want to do well for this club, but merely doing well will not pay bills. Only cash can do that!"

The Tynecastle management state clearly that the players can earn as much as £1,500 per man in a one-off bonus payment for securing promotion. The players say the offer is only £500. Someone, somewhere has got his figures mixed up.

Hearts players are on a basic wage of £100 per week and there are bonuses added to that for draws and victories as well as appearance money. That may not compare too well with the wage packets of Kenny Dalglish at Liverpool or Gordon McQueen at Manchester United, but obviously there is a huge gulf between these teams and Hearts, and that gap is growing wider by the minute.

It's a shocking situation and Hearts must realise that all the cash wrangles off the field will obviously interfere with their concentration on the park.

If they fail to clinch promotion — and the First Division is a tough League from which to escape — then what will they do?

At the moment Hearts are maintaining a full-time policy, but it is just possible that they might revert to a part-time basis. That, obviously, would mean pay packets being slashed.

It's time for the talking to stop and for Hearts to get on with the game. While SHOOT sincerely believes that a professional should get paid for a job well done, we also believe that the fans must be catered for.

They are the lifeblood of the game. Without them Hearts are doomed. They should remember that.



Hearts in action against Rangers, one of the clubs they once threatened to topple from the top of Scottish soccer.



If ever a footballer deserved success it has to be Wolverhampton Wanderers striker John Richards.

Ravaged by injury and pain for much of the past few seasons there was even a time when he feared he had kicked a football for the last time.

Little wonder then that a huge grin spreads across his face when you talk to him about his new partnership with Andy Gray.

"If you think it's good now just wait until we're both fit," he says.

the signs are we are striking up a good understanding that can only get better."

Those are cautious words that Richards is well advised to use, but the prospect for Wolves fans is certainly exciting. Not since Derek Dougan retired has Richards had a regular partner.

True he played only 19 matches last season, and while he did better in Wolves' Second Division promotion year, the previous season got off to a miserable start, his first game not coming until late November.

Now all the old acceleration is back, the deadliness in the penalty-area, and it's significant that half the goals scored since Gray and Richards came together have involved both players.

After that timely 3-1 victory over Manchester United in front of one of the day's largest crowds, Richards said: "Andy's the strongest centre-forward in the

The secret fear of JOHN RICHARDS

After so many setbacks John is man enough to know that another bad knock could send him back to square one. But right now he's enjoying every moment of his new lease of life and wallowing in his good fortune.

The Gray-Richards pairing has become one of football's major talking points within weeks of being formed.

In their first match together, following Andy's £1½ million arrival and amid much ballyhoo, both scored at Everton.

A week later the dose was repeated much to the dismay of Manchester United who had gone to Molineux as leaders of the First Division and left in no doubt that the rejuvenation of Wolverhampton Wanderers was gathering pace.

Within another seven days Crystal Palace and Arsenal had both been beaten in London and Gray had added two more goals, making four in just three League games.

"I have to admit that I've been waiting to play alongside someone like Andy for years," says John.

"It's early days yet and I don't want people to get carried away but

country, dynamite in the air, and even when he's not got the ball he's pulling defenders away from the rest of us. The whole town is alive again since he and Emlyn Hughes arrived. It's great for those of us who've been here during the bad times."

In return Gray paid his pal this compliment: "John's the brains and I'm the brawn. If I'd had John to play with at Villa we'd have averaged 50 goals a season and sent the fans home ecstatic. I'm not fully fit yet by any means but I'm enjoying the game more than I have for ages."

It has to be said that Wolves are not a two-man team. They recently added the wing powers of former England international Dave Thomas from Everton to provide the ammunition for Richards and Gray. And in their resurgence the mid-field inspiration of Kenny Hibbitt has been a factor sufficiently strong to send some people away suggesting he could yet play for England. Willie Carr and Peter Daniel are completing a midfield that can be as formidable as any in the country at the moment.



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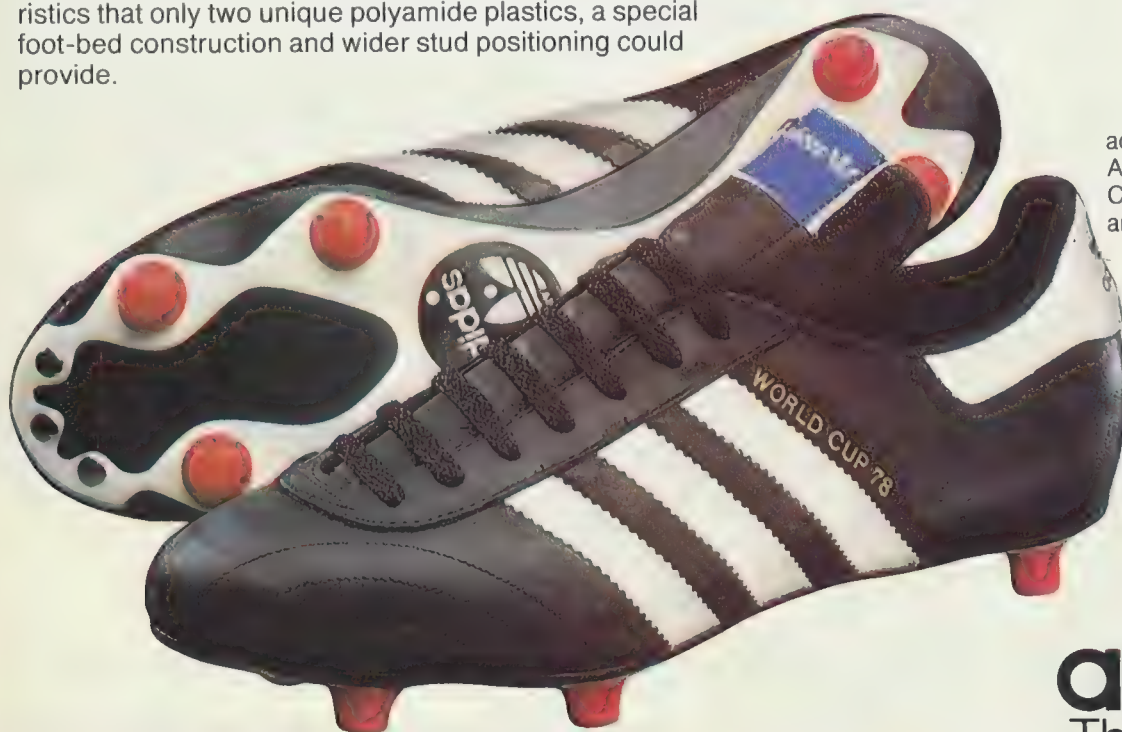
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The science of sport

Treviso forward (number 21) turns away after scoring a second-half goal. The Forest striker seals "Game of the age" in Ron Greenwood's 21st international match.



ENGLAND CARRY

ENGLAND are 99 per cent sure of their place in the European Championship Finals . . . Wales are 99 per cent out . . . while Scotland still have a fighting chance. SHOOT cameramen were at the three big games involving the British teams and here is the best of the Euro action.



Above: A mud-covered Tony Woodcock is congratulated by Steve Coppell.

Left: Austria striker Hans Krankl, who scored their goal at Hampden Park, is tackled by Scotland's Kenny Burns.



Tony Woodcock beats Pat Jennings to open his England goal account.



Kevin Keegan shows his style in Belfast.

THE FLAG



Karl-Heinz Rummenigge scores West Germany's fourth goal in their 5-1 rout of Wales in Cologne.

SHOOT!



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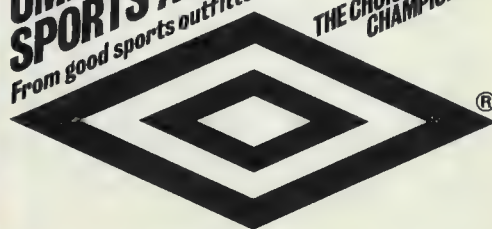
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EVEN more than 20 years in Spain have not eroded Alfredo di Stefano's melodic Buenos Aires accent, though his voice is gravelly and forthright. The clear blue eyes widen and narrow expressively as he talks about his great passion in life — football. As a player, his record was unparalleled. He was unusually fast for an Argentinian; he covered every inch of the pitch; and he never grew tired of scoring goals. After joining Real Madrid in 1953, he scored no fewer than 258 goals in 332 League and Cup appearances. Plus an incredible 49 more in 58 European Cup matches. Despite having people like Puskas in the same front line, di Stefano was Real's top scorer for six seasons and topped the Spanish lists five times. And if you're one of those people who insist that yesterday's footballers couldn't have been a patch on

time. What's more, it's a job that the public and Press do not see — they judge you purely on results. And when the manager happens to be a big name they expect miracles overnight.

SHOOT: Valencia are definitely in the first category, aren't they? They've spent £3 million pounds in the last three years and with players like Mario Kempes and Rainer Bonhof in the side, the fans are bound to demand instant success. **DI STEFANO:** Valencia have some excellent Spanish and foreign players. Anyone would be glad to have Kempes in their squad because he

weren't paid and publicised so much.

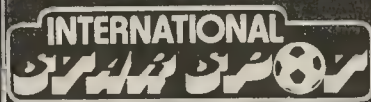
SHOOT: Managers are also well paid.

DI STEFANO: Yes, but it's a very different job. In the eyes of the Press and the public the manager never wins a match. It's always some individual player or other. But when you get a couple of bad results it's always the manager's fault. Perhaps results are too important these days, and this has affected the game as a spectacle. Nowadays, practically every team plays defensively away from home, basically because the managers are scared stiff of losing 5-0 if they play an open game. A couple of 5-0 defeats and the manager's head is on the chopping-block. Possibly it's worse here in the Latin countries where the fans are

DI STEFANO: A lot of countries are working really seriously towards 1982 now, and I think clubs are finally placing more importance on bringing on young players now that transfer fees are so high. At club and national level there are a lot of sides at around the same standard. Again, results have tended to become a little too important even in friendly matches, and there are sometimes political undertones which I don't like. Having said that, I think the general standard of football skills is improving, and I'm confident we'll see some fantastic World Cup games here in 1982.

SHOOT: With how many British teams?

DI STEFANO: I hope there's a good representation of British football, because you have a good attacking



ALFREDO DI STEFANO

Valencia 'Why great players aren't always great managers'

today's talent, have a look at those films of Real Madrid's five European Cup triumphs when the tournament was born in the mid-50's. But as a manager, di Stefano's career hasn't been "vino and roses" all the way. He was sacked after only four months at Elche; and after six months at Rayo Vallecano. He fared differently at Second Division Castellon. And he's spent three years among the ranks of the unemployed. He's also tasted success by leading Boca Juniors and Valencia to League titles. Now he's back at Valencia in control of a strong squad and with his reputation on the line.

SHOOT: Obviously success as a player offers no guarantees of success as a manager.

DI STEFANO: Definitely not. Let's put it this way. If you want to be a doctor you study medicine; if you want to be an engineer you study engineering. And if you want to be a manager I reckon you've got to have served your "apprenticeship" as a player. It's a specialised job. **SHOOT:** It seems odd that people like yourself, Gentó, Puskas, Santamaria and others of that great Real Madrid side should have had so little success as managers.

DI STEFANO: To be a successful manager you need a special set of circumstances. If you happen to be with a top club with a lot of money at your disposal you can obtain titles more quickly and more frequently. But if you're with a small club with limited means, you've got to work hard at bringing on young players — and this takes

moves well in attack or midfield and he's always dangerous. But it isn't enough to write K-E-M-P-E-S on the team-sheet every weekend. Football is a team game, and my job is make sure that our players blend into a team. The individual is always secondary compared to the team as a whole. I can promise you that when I was a player I never did anything for personal glory. People used to say that because I back-heeled the ball into the net I was playing to the gallery, but I can promise you that I only did that sort of thing when there wasn't time to turn round and give the ball a good belting. No, it doesn't matter how many big names you've got — if they don't add up to a team you're wasting your time hoping to win trophies.

SHOOT: Do you just accept players like Kempes and Bonhof as "ready-made" or do you think you can do anything to make them improve still further?

DI STEFANO: People like Mario and Rainer, who've played in World Cups, might not take advice readily from a manager who hasn't. I don't know. You never stop learning in football. There are some youngsters around today who think they know it all, but these players will never reach the very top. They can make good money as an average sort of player, so why should they put themselves out to improve? It's a bad situation, and I'm sure a lot of promising youngsters would end up a lot better as players if they



hot-blooded and you can go from hero to villain and back in a couple of Sundays. Anyway, managers are taking more precautions against being beaten heavily, and that's why you're getting defensive tactics that are a mixture of open war and a game of chess.

SHOOT: But, as an Argentinian, you must be pleased that your country won the World Cup with some attacking football?

DI STEFANO: Yes, I think I can identify with what's going on in Argentina at the moment — and I'm not saying that out of patriotism. They've got the team that won the World Cup, but they're not just trotting round the world showing off their trophy. They're doing some serious work with the Youth Team and the Under-21s and they're trying to build a good team for 1982. It's the right attitude.

SHOOT: What about Europe?

style of play, with everyone looking for goals. I like the way British teams do everything so simply. OK, you aren't wizards with the ball, but that doesn't stop you being effective. You have a very different style and I like it. I saw West Bromwich play here in Valencia last season and I was very impressed with them.

SHOOT: Talking about West Brom, do you think Cunningham will be a success in Spain?

DI STEFANO: I think Cunningham is a good player. He's very fast and he's got a good build. We'll have to see how well he adapts to a different country and a completely different style of play. He'll have to get used to our man-to-man marking, too.

SHOOT: The marked man at Valencia is always Mario Kempes. Since the World Cup he's had very tight marking in every game, and his form was poor last season. Now that he's famous, will he be marked out of every game?

DI STEFANO: No. It just isn't possible to do this with a player of Kempes' ability. He moves well as a front-runner or a midfield player. His positional sense is excellent. And he's permanently dangerous. It has to be a pretty good marking job to keep Mario quiet for 90 minutes. Obviously we're hoping that Kempes will hit top form again this season, and we're hoping that Valencia will win something. But you can never count on anything in this game.

SHOOT: Will Valencia play attractive attacking football like the Real Madrid of old, or are you also afraid of 5-0 defeats?

DI STEFANO: Let's say that when we have to defend, we'll defend. But we'll never go out to defend — that's just asking for trouble. We have some good attackers, so it wouldn't be very intelligent if we wasted their talents. OK, so football has become more mechanised and there are certain basic jobs for each player on the pitch. But I always remind my players that football is still there to be enjoyed, and that they should go out there and express themselves and enjoy the game.

● Interview by Graham Turner.

TWO years ago in SHOOT we attempted to predict which, of the younger managers learning their trade in the lower Divisions, would not only survive this hazardous occupation but go on to make names for themselves.

We chose Alan Durban, then at Shrewsbury; Graham Taylor, of Watford; Ron Atkinson, at Cambridge; John Barnwell, at Peterborough; and Arfon Griffiths, of Wrexham. We reckon we did well. Atkinson is rated among the top half-dozen managers in the country, Durban has led Stoke City back to the First Division, Taylor has lifted Watford two Divisions, Barnwell is master-minding a Wolves resurgence; and Griffiths has brought Second Division football to The Racecourse Ground.

Of course we had our failures — we also tipped Peter Morris, who left management with Mansfield to coach at Newcastle, but is now back in the hot seat with Peterborough; Jim Smith, who was highly successful with Blackburn, but is finding life more testing at Birmingham, and Jimmy Lawson, no longer in charge at Halifax.

So who are the next wave of Cloughs, Paisleys and McMenemys?

The two T's, Graham Taylor and John Toshack, seem destined to

emulate the older guard.

Taylor's Watford are struggling to consolidate in the Second Division, but there is no denying their manager's skill in steering them to the threshold of the First Division.

Swansea, under Toshack, have accompanied Watford out of the Fourth and Third Divisions in successive seasons. Both clubs have had good Cup runs, and both are as active and ambitious in off-the-field activities as they are on the pitch.

If anything, Toshack has a head start on Taylor because of his own playing record and consequent standing in the game.

It is no coincidence that since Toshack arrived after illustrious service to Cardiff, Liverpool and Wales, Swansea have been able to recruit players of the calibre of Tommy Smith, Ian Callaghan, John Mahoney, Leighton Phillips and Tommy Craig — all international class.

Swansea have made a promising start to life in the Second Division and for the first time in years Toshack has got the town really buzzing about its football club.

The same can hardly be said of Rochdale, a town which has had little to crow about for as long as its team has been in the League.

And yet Spotland would seem to be a great training ground for

managerial talent.

Harry Catterick, Bob Stokoe, Tony Collins and Brian Green have all managed Rochdale and then moved on to bigger clubs. Now Doug Collins threatens to do the same.

When he took over last season Rochdale were not only doomed to applying for re-election but bracing themselves for expulsion from the League for being in this familiar position too often.

What Collins achieved was little short of a miracle. When the last match was won, Rochdale were safe and the team's form over the last month of the season, represented that of promotion candidates.

Now the ex-Burnley, Plymouth and Sunderland player has the scope of a full campaign to prove himself.

A third player-manager who faces a critical period is Graham Turner, of Shrewsbury.

Up to now life has been a bed of roses for Turner the manager.

He succeeded two popular predecessors at Gay Meadow in Alan Durban and Richie Barker, and Turner was well aware that whatever he achieved people would say it had only been done on the back of their previous work.

Nevertheless he can still point to the fact that HE was the man who led Shrewsbury into the Second Division for the first time ever and took them further than they'd ever gone in the F.A. Cup.

Like Durban and Barker, young Graham Turner is a very personable fellow who thrives on responsibility, has worked hard for everything he's ever got out of football, and is totally committed to the game.

From three player-managers to three young bosses who use their brains but don't get bruises any more.

Ken Knighton couldn't have asked for a more exacting introduction to management than the one he's been handed at Sunderland.

With such enormous tradition the passionate need to overshadow local rivals Newcastle, and all the clamouring for a charismatic character like Brian Clough or Lawrie McMenemy, Sunderland present a unique and formidable challenge to anyone.

Knighton may be a comparative unknown to those larger-than-life personalities, but he is very much his own man. He will not be afraid to make decisions and he knows he has the full support of a playing staff that rooted for him to get the job.

Dario Gradi is similarly well thought of by his players.

He says he really wants to be coach at Wimbledon, because that's what he's best at. But as the manager picks the players he wants, and the teams, he's happy to be manager, coach and selector at Plough Lane!

YOUNG BOSSES HEADING



Gradi has already proved he can spot a player, and get the best out of him, and if Wimbledon do as well as they promised this season, clubs at a higher level will try to persuade him he really does want to be a manager.

Bobby Saxton has forsaken his own playing career to try and pilot Plymouth Argyle back into the Second Division, and the indications are that he's doing a good job.

Saxton entered management while still playing for Exeter City, and he was so impressive that when Plymouth lost Malcolm Allison to Manchester City, they had no hesitation in going up the road to their neighbours and asking for their boss.

Particularly keen on nurturing home-grown talent, Saxton has already seen youngsters like Mark Graves, Kevin Hodges, John Uzzell, Chris Harrison and Mike Trusson come in and justify his faith.

Another manager with a great deal to offer the game is Bradford City's former Scottish international winger George Mulhall.

During his first job at Halifax Town, Mulhall built a reputation for squeezing every ounce out of his players. With a meagre staff he achieved great respect and kept

the club in a healthy state in a playing and financial sense.

Then after a squabble over club policy he left, eventually becoming assistant to Ian Greaves at Bolton, but he is back now at Bradford City, determined to prove himself in the toughest job of all.

One of the newest managers around, but one who already commands enormous respect is Howard Kendall, of Blackburn Rovers.

Ever since coming into the game as a teenage wing-half with Preston, Howard has been among the most popular as well as knowledgeable people in the game.

He is in love with football, thinks about every move, and has infectious enthusiasm that rubs off on all around him.

Howard should do very well at Ewood Park.

Those then are some of the fine young managers around. We believe they should all go far as will Bobby Smith, of Swindon, Bobby Roberts, of Colchester, Mick Buxton, of Huddersfield, and Allan Clarke of Barnsley.

Why not check again with us in another two years?

FOR THE TOP

BOBBY GRAHAM - helping Hamilton become a BIG little team



Graham drew the attention of Bayern Munich while playing for Motherwell against Celtic.

Glasgow seven seasons ago. There was no follow up of interest from the West German kings and Graham was allowed to move on for only £20,000 two years ago.

Pettigrew, who turned down the opportunity to sign for St. Pauli in the Bundesliga three seasons ago, has moved at last and joined Dundee United for a bargain £100,000.

Graham's exceptional leadership qualities are making Hamilton into one of the big little teams North of the border. They are an ambitious outfit with the big-time touch.

The manager is Davie McParland, the man who led Partick Thistle to that historic 4-1 League Cup Final victory over Celtic at Hampden in 1971. The Parkhead side must have been impressed because they later appointed him as number two to Jock Stein!

Axed

However, in the behind-the-scenes upheaval at the then fallen giants of Scottish soccer two seasons ago, McParland was axed, but didn't have to wait too long for a job with Hamilton coming in quickly with their offer.

Graham isn't short of top line experience, either. He started his senior career with Liverpool before going to Coventry and then returning to Scotland with Motherwell.

The appointment of Graham as player coach at Douglas Park was a popular one both with the fans and the rest of the team.

"I'm enjoying my soccer at the moment," says Graham, who is still knocking in the goals with unwavering consistency.

"We have a good side here and, naturally enough, promotion is our main aim. This is a tough Division, but we got off to a good start and that will give us a boost."

Goalkeeper Rikki Ferguson is another experienced campaigner along with Dennis McQuade, the former Partick Thistle winger who scored in that incredible Hampden match against the Celts when the Firhill team won their first major honour in 50 years.

Manager McParland will obviously be hoping that McQuade can provide the goods a second time around!

Meanwhile, Graham is still getting rave notices. Along with other Scottish golden oldies such as Celtic's Bobby Lennox and Raith Rovers' player-manager Gordon Wallace, he hasn't lost any of his goal flair and his natural enthusiasm is rubbing off on the younger players.

Can Hamilton fight their way into the Top Ten? With Bobby Graham around, that is a distinct possibility...

FORMER West German star Werner Olk, then the assistant-manager of Bayern Munich, was sent to Scotland on a spying mission.

His target was Willie Pettigrew, playing in Motherwell's front line and demoralising defences on a match-by-match basis with devastating finishing. Bayern, preparing for the day the great Gerd Muller would retire, were on the look-out for a successor and the statistics provided by Pettigrew obviously attracted their attention.

Olk decided to watch Pettigrew in action against Celtic at Parkhead. It was a tough game, fought in atrocious conditions and the Fir Park side shocked everyone by winning 2-0. Pettigrew got both, one in each half, but Olk wasn't talking about the striker after the game.

Another player had attracted his eye. "Who is that number eight?" he asked. "I must have his name. He is so good... a very capable player."

The name of that individual was Bobby Graham, but he is not gracing the Bundesliga with his talents and pitting his wits against Kevin Keegan. Instead he is playing in the Scottish First Division with Hamilton!

A lot has happened since that Motherwell victory over Celtic in



'NO COLOUR BAR ON THE FIELD'

says Garth Crooks of Stoke

"FOOTBALL's a bit of a rat race, being black is just one more problem, an extra barrier. The only way things are going to get better is if there are more and more black players throughout the League. Black players are capable of overcoming those barriers. I've got through them — there's no reason why others can't."

Those are the confident words of Garth Crooks, Stoke City's 21-year-old striker and one of England's most promising young players.

"I never had any racial problems as a player until I was 15 or 16, probably because blacks are a small minority in Stoke. From City and County levels onwards you start to get the odd 'clever' remarks from opponents about your colour."

"I'm very aware of it if I'm the only black player on the pitch, you're pinpointed by the opposition because you stand out."

"It honestly doesn't bother me. It's a physical difference you just have to accept. The ultimate answer to any barracking from the crowd is to score a goal. Other black players I've talked to have the same attitude."

'Runaround'

"I've never come across a racist on the pitch. When I have had a hard time from an opponent, as every striker does, things are often said in the heat of the moment — especially if I'm giving him the run-around."

"After the game they are always the first to come and shake hands — that's one of the beauties of professional football."

Garth Crooks, together with Crystal Palace's Vince Hilaire, West Bromwich's Cyrille Regis and Real Madrid's Laurie Cunningham, is the latest in a rapidly growing line of talented black forwards.

"He had all the natural skills when he first came to Stoke," says ex-England goalkeeper Gordon Banks, now coach at Port Vale, who was then coach at the Victoria Ground.

"He had more skill than all the other lads in that year but found it hard to get along with the hard work necessary to make it as a First Division footballer. He had to be talked to and handled carefully, but it was all worth it — what a player he is now."

Garth acknowledges the debt he owes to Banks. "He had the biggest influence on my career. When things were getting hard he made sure I didn't lag behind, made sure I coped with everything."

Crooks started in Staffordshire's 'Lads and Dads' League when he was nine. It's a set-up he praises and frequently helps with charity appearances.

His school-life suffered, some-



thing which he regrets. His teachers even banned his school football for a time to try and get him through his exams! He eventually came away with three 'O' levels, a bonus he wasn't expecting.

He was signed as an apprentice with Stoke straight from school and made his debut at 18, during Stoke's last spell in the First Division. But he's been a City man for much longer than that. Since the age of four he's been a regular at the Boothend End of the ground.

The speed with which he's made the transition from concrete to grass still amazes him, but he's adapted well to the change.

"When people first started to recognise me I was very shy. I kept my head down in shops and made a bee-line for the counter, bought what I wanted and bolted for the door. Now I've got used to it."

At first he was a midfield creator, now he's a striker. He prefers his latest role and to prove it he's been hitting the net regularly this season.

He is naturally skilful and intelligent. So next time you're standing next to someone who's giving Garth Crooks some stick because of his colour remember one day he could be playing for England in the World Cup.



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1 A goalkeeper whose team is leading with only minutes left, falls on the ball and makes no attempt to release it. Should you: (a) take no action, (b) award a penalty-kick, or (c) caution the 'keeper and award an indirect free-kick?



2 You award an indirect free-kick, but as an opposing player rolls the ball to the correct position it is kicked, before it stops, into the goal. Should you: (a) award a free-kick against the kicker or (b) have the kick retaken?



3 After you have given a free-kick against him, a player stands and looks at the crowd in disbelief. Should you: (a) caution the player for dissent, (b) warn him for his conduct or (c) send him off?



4 After a goal is scored you are told that the scorer is a substitute who replaced a teammate at half-time. After cautioning the sub should you: (a) allow the goal, (b) award a free-kick from where the sub kicked the ball, or (c) restart with a drop ball?



The ball has crossed the touch-line. Before it is thrown in a player deliberately kicks an opponent. After sending off the offender should you restart with: (a) a throw-in, (b) drop-ball or (c) direct free-kick?

ANSWERS

1 Caution the 'keeper and award an indirect free-kick (c). 2 Have the kick retaken (b). 3 Warn him for his conduct (b). 4 Allow the goal (a). 5 A throw-in (a). "Smacked" at me in a childish way — I immediately cautioned him & allowed the goal (a). I warned him about this, but when walking back to his position he immediately stood over the ball to stop the opponent from taking a quick free-kick. I had given a free-kick against Phil Bator of Rovers. I had given a free-kick against Phil Bator of Rovers.

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

1. Johan Cruyff starred for Los Angeles Aztecs in a friendly against Chelsea. Despite his brilliant performance, the Stamford Bridge club won 1-0, 2-0 or 3-0?

2. Sunderland centre-half Jackie Ashurst (right) was transferred to which Third Division club for £130,000?

3. Another player on the move was Brighton goalkeeper Eric Steele. A £100,000 transfer fee took him to which Second Division club?

4. Can you name the player-manager who quit from Fourth Division Stockport County?

5. Ally Brown (below), sent-off for West Brom against Carl Zeiss Jena, has been banned by U.E.F.A. for two, three or four European club competition games?

6. Dave Watson signed for Southampton from West German club Werder Bremen for £100,000, £200,000 or £300,000?

7. Burnley recently parted company with their manager. Can you name him?

8. West Ham picked up their first away League win of the season when they beat Sunderland, Oldham Athletic or Leicester City 1-0, 2-1 or 3-2?

9. Which Ipswich Town defender scored an own-goal against Liver-



pool when he lobbed the ball past his goalkeeper, Paul Cooper, from 30 yards?

10. Aston Villa sold full-back John Gidman to which club in a deal worth £800,000?

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP
England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland were involved in European Championship games. See if you can answer the following questions about the matches.

11. England romped to an impressive 5-1 win in Belfast against Northern Ireland. Which two players shared four of the goals?

12. Ireland's goal came from a penalty. Who was fouled in the area?

13. Who scored from the spot?

14. Scotland were held 1-1 at Hampden Park in a Group Two, Three or Four game by Austria?

15. Archie Gemmill, Sandy Jardine or Graeme Souness skipped Scotland?

16. Who was blamed for the goal scored by Austria's Hans Krankl?

17. Wales were hammered 5-1 in West Germany. What was the half-time score?

18. Which Welsh defender was injured in the first five minutes and substituted after 15?

19. Who was voted Man of the Match for the Republic in their 3-0 victory against Bulgaria in Dublin?

20. Did Frank Stapleton (below), Tony Grealish or Mick Martin score their third goal?



ANSWERS:

1. 2-0 2. Blackpool 3. Watford 4. Mike Summerbee 5. Four 6. £200,000 7. Harry Potts 8. Leicester 2-1 9. Allan Hunter 10. Everton 11. Trevor Francis and Tony Woodcock with two each 12. Sammy McIlroy 13. Vic Moreland 14. Two 15. Gemmill 16. Goalkeeper Alan Rough 17. 4-0 to West Ger many 18. Joey Jones 19. Liam Brady 20. Stapleton

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS:

ACROSS: (1) Love, (6) Journey, (9) Yellow, (11) Bone, (12) Eagle, (14) Is, (15) Rips, (17) Extol, (19) Mat, (20) Sea, (21) We, (22) April, (24) Trio, (26) Knife, (28) Try, (29) At, (31) Gerry, (33) You, (35) Echo, (37) Street.
DOWN: (1) Layer, (2) Vale Park, (3) Bowles, (4) Orb, (5) Kenilworth, (6) Jog, (7) No, (8) Yes, (10) Lasting, (13) Exeter, (16) Imp, (18) Tar, (22) Away, (23) Lie, (25) It, (27) Free, (30) To, (32) Yet, (34) Us, (36) Or.

Jumbled Name: STEVE PERRYMAN

NEXT WEEK ... NEXT WEEK ...



SHOOT ... reveals that Kevin Keegan (above) could be playing for Barcelona next season if Hamburger SV agree to a swop-plus-cash deal involving Danish star Allan Simonsen.

SHOOT'S star-writer GORDON McQUEEN talks about the big Manchester derby between City and United at Maine Road.

SHOOT ... has compiled a special report on the present transfer market North of the border and names the star who could become Scotland's first home-based £200,000 player.

SHOOT ... looks at the London clubs and predicts a winter of discontent for most of the capital's fans.

SHOOT ... talks to Norwich City's Martin Peters, who is about to celebrate his 36th birthday. Liverpool's Steve Heighway about his plans for the future. Brian Greenhoff on his transfer from Manchester United to Leeds. Roger Davies whose career turned a full circle when he rejoined his old club Derby County.

ALSO ... CELTIC team group in colour + Club Spotlight

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'IT COULD HAVE



"Kevin Keegan pulled his marker, David McCreery, all over the place."

If England fail to reach the European Championship Finals, we'll need shooting. One point from our remaining home ties against Bulgaria and the Republic of Ireland will ensure qualification, but after our comprehensive 5-1 win over Northern Ireland, we are, naturally, saying "when" rather than "if".

Whatever people may say, Belfast isn't the easiest of places to get a good result — and how many other countries would you back to score five over there?

The trip was very well organised, with the security kept at a distance and a low profile.

As you can imagine, flying to Belfast necessitates maximum security, with body-checks and other measures that are, unfortunately, essential.

I was petrified the first time I went to the Irish capital a few years ago. It was all so new to me... the troops, bombing, the disruption of life. This time, it didn't really bother me, although I'm sure it was in the back of everyone's minds what might just happen...

The soccer-loving people of Northern Ireland have given England a tremendous reception every



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IPSWICH (Home)					
JERSEY	5.25	5.75	6.95	7.95	
FULL SET	12.10	12.60	14.20	15.20	
Q.P.R. (Home)					
JERSEY	6.50	6.95	8.50	9.25	
FULL SET	13.35	13.80	15.75	16.50	
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BEEN TEN!'

Ray Wilkins
WRITES
FOR YOU



time I've played there. This time was no exception and they showed their appreciation with typical warmth.

That was the only warm thing about the trip — it rained from the time we touched down until the time we took off. Non-stop!

The pitch became very heavy, but as it was the same for both sides this had no bearing on the result.

On the day, England played very well. We dominated the first-half and I was pleased to play a part in our opening goal. I sent a long pass through the Irish defence which ended with Trevor Francis scoring.

Ireland threatened us only in a ten-minute spell after the interval. Sammy McIlroy, who had a fabulous game, was devastating in that period and Mick Mills was forced to concede a penalty as Sammy made yet another run towards our goal.

At 2-1, we suddenly had a fight on our hands and it needed a world-class save by Peter Shilton from Sammy to preserve our lead. I'd say Peter's save was the turning point, because after that moment we steamrollered the Irish. In the end, it could have been 10-1.

Awareness

Our goals were well-made and well-taken, but the Irish won't be too pleased because their defenders lacked awareness at crucial moments.

We've now put nine goals past Northern Ireland in our two ties and one reason for this must be that we know their defenders so well. Even so, I don't want to take anything away from England. Our application was good, we went for goals ... and got them.

It may puzzle some fans how we can struggle to score against Denmark at Wembley and score five in Belfast. It is definitely harder for us to play at home, as teams raise their game at Wembley and invariably have eight or nine men behind the ball much of the time.

We found it easier to score against Denmark in Copenhagen — we won 4-3 — because as the home team, the onus was on them to come forward and consequently we found some gaps to exploit.

I was pleased to see Trevor Francis and Tony Woodcock doing so well. Both looked very sharp and

their finishing was deadly. I've never seen Trevor so relaxed and this certainly showed in his play. Their performances in Belfast will do wonders for their confidence.

It was said that Kevin Keegan had a quieter game than usual. I disagree. The little feller may have had less of the ball, but he was always available and created many openings for others with his unselfish running.

David McCreery was marking Kevin, and Kev took the Q.P.R. player everywhere.

This was one of England's best performances under Ron Greenwood. When you score five away from home, it must rate highly.

The manager didn't say too much to us afterwards, other than "well done." He prefers to speak individually to players and would never, ever criticise any of us in public.

Northern Ireland? I hope the World Cup brings them some joy, but the decade of civil unrest in Ulster is taking its toll and when youngsters can't play football in the streets, it must eventually harm the international team.

This Saturday (November 3) we entertain the First Division's Jekyll and Hyde team ... Southampton. Saints play so well at home, but away they often disappoint. Even so, they have far too many experienced campaigners to be taken lightly.

I didn't expect to be lining-up

"The Irish defence lacked awareness at times."



Alan Ball
(Southampton)

The Dell's capacity.

I made my Manchester United debut down there in the 1-1 draw. It was a personal disaster for me and I've blanked it from my memory! I can't believe I'll have such a poor game ever again.

Saints have so many good players who can cause us problems. Alan Ball will revel in the Old Trafford atmosphere ... Charlie George seems back to his best ... while Phil Boyer has been topping the First Division goal-charts.

Mike Channon, back with Saints was with Manchester City long enough to learn all about the City-United rivalry. He'll relish the Old Trafford atmosphere. I'm looking forward to a good game — and to making amends for my previous performance against Southampton.

Our home results have been excellent and we're in no mood to lose our record.

Join me again in two weeks when I'll be previewing England's European Championship tie against Bulgaria.

against Dave Watson quite so soon. I didn't get the chance to speak to Dave about his German experience, but I suppose the lesson to be learned is that you must be prepared for anything on the Continent.

Whatever may have happened to Dave, he is still the best centre-half England have.

Southampton are a club I admire because they are so well organised both on and off the field. Lawrie McMenemy has done a first-class job at such a small club whose attendances are limited because of

Ray Wilkins

'Three years before I'm at my peak' says Palace's JOHN BURRIDGE

JOHN Burridge has a very simple, straight-forward philosophy of football life. The Crystal Palace goalkeeper who has created a real affinity with the Selhurst Park fans since his arrival from Aston Villa, says: "Too many people are taking the fun out of the game."

"I like to entertain people and enjoy myself. The day I don't, I'll pack it up. I can't stand players who go out on to the field with long faces. You'd think they were going to the gallows; not out to play the game they are supposed to love!"

'Clown'

"Budgie" is one of the brightest characters ever to join the South London club. And he promises Palace fans: "You haven't seen the best of me yet. People might think I'm a clown and it's true I love to entertain people. But I'm no fool when it comes to playing the game properly."

"I take it seriously because it's a game I love. But that doesn't mean to say I can't entertain. I play for fun. But I also play to pay my mortgage and food bills."

"You wouldn't convince a guy like Terry Venables you could play if you couldn't. The boss is marvellous for what he has done for me. He has helped in so many ways and that's why I feel I can still improve."

"I'm 26 and they reckon a goal-

keeper reaches his peak when he is 29. I am learning all the time, yet I don't know one tenth of goalkeeping yet. But I'm prepared to learn."

"At the same time, though, I aim to have some pleasure and fun from the game. Football is too serious today and it is because managers have frightened players. They've told them 'you do this or I'll get someone else to do it'. Consequently, they are scared of what they must do. That's the

wrong attitude to go out with."

Burridge had spells at Blackpool and Villa before joining his third major club, Palace. He had previously played for Workington and, on loan, Southend. His goalkeeping has been a key factor in Palace's success this season and there's no doubt that in John Burridge, Palace manager Terry Venables has one of the most dedicated footballers around.

"I'm just nuts about the game —

I live for it," says Burridge. "I don't do anything else in the season but think of football. I rest when I'm not playing and that's not something you can do walking around shops or standing in night clubs, so I relax at home. I'm always in a track suit and I won't even go out to do the gardening. I take my job dead seriously."

And the Palace fans have taken to Burridge as much as the 'keeper has taken to them. "I reckon they're marvellous," he says. "I had a good start on my debut. I made some good saves when we played Brighton, and keeping them out was just what the supporters wanted to see. They have really encouraged me and that's why I always want to do well for them."

"The First Division is the only place to be in football and that's why I am so thrilled by Palace's success this season. I wanted to get back into the First to enjoy the atmosphere and everything about it."

As Palace have continued to make progress, so Burridge has improved, too. And maybe that's not too surprising for the cheerful Palace goalie has a quick answer ready when you ask him for his hobbies.

"Entertaining people and making brilliant saves," he quips. And there really isn't any better answer than that, if you're a professional footballer.



Burridge safely collects a cross against Southampton this season.

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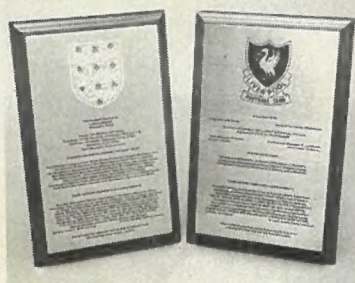
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Arsenal — Tottenham — Manchester United — Manchester City — Everton — Liverpool — Nottingham Forest — Southampton, plus the England International Badge.

At only £8.40 plus 40p p & p they make wonderful gifts. Please remember to state Clubs when ordering.

CLUB COASTERS



Let friends know who you support, place their drinks on a stainless steel coaster, with non-slip green baize bonded on base. Club badge is elegantly engraved on centre of coaster with predominant club colour outstanding. 87mm dia.

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Now ready — All First Division Clubs plus England International.

CAR BADGES



Self stick Club badges in stainless steel — fix instantly. Skillfully engraved on to stainless steel with predominant club colour. Size 60mm x 45mm. A really low price for such a quality product — start collecting NOW at only 85p each p & p 10p.

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I enclose £ _____ including p & p.

*ASK FOR OUR FREE COLOUR BROCHURE OF FOOTBALL SOUVENIRS.

SH 10/11

FOCUS ON GEERT MEYER

Bristol City

FULL NAME: Geert Meyer
BIRTHPLACE: Vlagtwedde (Groniengen)
BIRTHDATE: 15th March, 1951
HEIGHT: 6ft 1½ins
WEIGHT: 12½st
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Ajax, FC Amsterdam and DWS
MARRIED: To Anneke
CHILDREN: No
CAR: BMW 316
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Johan Cruyff, Kevin Keegan and Robbie Rensenbrink
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAMS: Ajax and Anderlecht
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Cuccuredu of Juventus
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Ajax's match against Juventus
BIGGEST THRILL: Beating Atletico Madrid 3-0 while with Ajax
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: An Ajax/Juventus game when we lost on penalty-kicks
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Greece
FAVOURITE FOODS: I like most kinds of foods
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: I like everything in life well arranged
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: People that are late for appointments
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Sports programmes and films
FAVOURITE SINGERS: The Bee Gees and Fleetwood Mac
FAVOURITE ACTORS/ACTRESSES: Clint Eastwood, Charles Bronson, Charlton Heston, Britt Ekland and Ursula Andress
BEST FRIENDS: I haven't any special friends but my team-mates have helped me tremendously
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: The Ajax team and Zwartkruis (National trainer)
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Losing
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: 14 National military games
PERSONAL AMBITION: To play in the European Cup with Bristol City
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play in England for a few years
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? A school teacher
WHICH PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Muhammad Ali and Pele



SHOOT!